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Wilmington Journal.

VOL. 20. } CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA—WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, 1863. { NO. 8.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

1 square, of 10 lines or less, for each and every insertion, $2.

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☞ No advertisement, reflecting upon private character, can, under ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, be admitted.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }
HALIFAX COUNTY. }
In the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, August Term, A. D. 1863.

... Petition for Partition of Real ... Estate

... RAWLINGS.

IT APPEARING to the satisfaction of the Court that ... CATHERINE RAWLINGS, ... Thomas Rawlings and ... North Carolina, by George Rawlings and ... Rawlings and Thomas Rawlings, ... tition for partition of Real Estate; and it appearing that ... do not reside within the limits of the State ... of North Carolina, it is ordered by the Court that publica... be made for six weeks in the Wilmington Journal, a ... newspaper published in the town of Wilmington, ... notifying the said Rawlings to appear at the next term ... to be held for the County of Halifax, at the Court House in Halifax, on the third Monday of November, 1863, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, otherwise judgment *pro confesso* will be entered against him.

Witness, B. Whitaker, Clerk of said Court, at office ... this 3rd Monday of August, A. D., 1863.

JAS. H. WHITAKER Clerk.
[Pr. adv. $21] 3 6t

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }
HALIFAX COUNTY. }

... Petition for Partition of Real ... Estate.

... HAWKINS.

IT APPEARING to the satisfaction of the Court that ... Lucinda Pender, ... Lawrence Pender and others, ... do not reside within the limits of the State ... of North Carolina, it is ordered by the Court that publication be made for six weeks in the Wilmington Journal, a weekly newspaper published in the town of Wilmington, notifying the said non-residents to appear at the next term of said Court, to be held for the County of Halifax, at the Court House in Halifax, on the third Monday of November, 1863, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, otherwise judgment *pro confesso* will be entered against them.

Witness, B. Whitaker, Clerk of said Court, at office ... this 3rd Monday of August, A. D., 1863.

JAS. H. WHITAKER, Clerk, &c.
[Pr. adv. $21] 3 6w

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }
HALIFAX COUNTY. }

... Petition for Dower.

... Lucinda Pender, ... Lawrence Pender and others.

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JAS. H. WHITAKER, Clerk, &c.
[Pr. adv. $21] 3 6w

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

... W. WHITFIELD, of Co. B, 51st ... deserted from the Camp of the 51st N. ... on or about the 30th of October, 1862, and is ... likely in the counties of Sampson and Bladen, ... he at times in parts of New Hanover ... will give the above reward for his de... 51st N. C. Regt or at any Military ...

W. H. BELL, Capt.
Co. B 51st N. C. Reg.

In Equity,
Fall Term, 1863.

... Cape Fear Coal and Iron ... Company.

... a Decree in this case made at this term ... I will sell by public auction, on the ... Chatham county, N. C., on Tuesday, the 8th ... [illegible] o'clock, A. M., the following ... LAND, viz: One Tract lying on the north ... Rocky, bounded as follows, to wit—Beginning ... on the bank of Deep river, near an old canoe ... [illegible] one hundred and twenty-two (122) ... [illegible] nine), thence with and beyond ... [illegible] one hundred and seventy-six (176) poles to a ... [illegible] thence south 50 deg. east, two hun... [illegible] (200) poles to a white oak on a ... [illegible] thence north 40 deg. east down ... [illegible] to a stone on said river, west eight ... [illegible] of each side with the river's ... [illegible] courses of the river to the begin... [illegible] containing one hundred and seventy ... [illegible] number TRACT containing two and ... [illegible] adjoining the land of Harris Lyon, with ...

A. M. WADDELL,
Clerk & Master in Equity.
50 1t—7 1s

... CHIEF CONTROLLING ...

... NAVAL, Richmond, Va., for the collection ... [illegible] that the following be published with ... [illegible] information on the subject from the ... North Carolina. The plan proposed is from a ... [illegible] Hanover County, Virginia.

... [illegible] most successful in keeping sweet ... [illegible] in Hanover County Va., adopt ...

... [illegible] of convenient size ... [illegible] of four or five feet. Put in a layer ... [illegible] inches thick, the sides also should ... [illegible] the potatoes are put in. After ... [illegible] to within one foot of the surface, and a ... [illegible] the pile erected, the potatoes are allow... [illegible] for about a week, to undergo what ... [illegible] sweat. Then pine tops are thrown into the ... [illegible] the surface, and pants laid over. It is of the ... [illegible] that no water should run in upon the ... [illegible] they should not be moved or touched until ... [illegible] Pine tops the best non conductor, un... [illegible] in Hanover. The usual country shelter is ... [illegible] corn stalks. Before the potatoes ... [illegible] the straw should be rubbed with the ... [illegible] and all dead roots. The potatoes should not ... [illegible] covered in any manner.

GEO. H. FITZHUGH,
Capt. & A. Q. M.,
Asst Q. M. Gen'l's Office.

... [illegible] officially solicited to give their opinions ... [illegible] could please direct their letters to Maj ... A. Hitchcock, Raleigh.

7 3t

RECRUITS WANTED.

... WISH TO ENLIST a few more young men to fill up an ... Company stationed at Fort Caswell. Young ... [illegible] to go in service soon, who have not been con... [illegible] will find it to their interest to come forward and ... [illegible] where they can have comfortable quarters and ... [illegible] fare. All volunteers will receive a bounty of ... [illegible] and Company will be commanded by

A. A. SHOCKLEY,
Lieut. & Recruiting Officer.
Fort Caswell, Nov. 5th, 1863. 7-3t*

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the next Legislature of ... North Carolina, to raise the fees of Clerks of the County ... and Superior Courts.

Nov. 12, 1863. 7 2*

REPORTED LOSS OF YANKEES.—We learn from a Yankee journal, bearing date October 29th, and published at Portsmouth, Va., that there was a well substantiated rumor in Portsmouth that the steamer containing the 99th New York regiment, and two full batteries, which left Fortress Monroe a few days previous, had gone to Davy Jones' locker, off Hatteras, in a terrible gale. All aboard are believed to be lost. The 99th regiment was for a long time stationed at Deep Creek, Norfolk county, and stole enough from peaceable citizens in that vicinity to make death terrible, indeed, under any circumstances.

WILMINGTON, N. C., NOV. 12, 1863.

☞ We noticed that the train from the South which arrived rather late this morning, brought in a special car the gallant General Hood, who lost a leg at Chickamauga We heard, and we believe correctly, that he is to remain some time in Wilmington as the guest of General WHITING.

He was accompanied by several officers, among whom we presume was his physician. In close attendance upon the wounded General, we remarked General G. W. SMITH, now a citizen of the State of Georgia.

We were glad to see that General HOOD was able to travel, but not without apprehensions that the effort might be more than prudence would justify. We trust however, that none but good effects will be experienced as the result of this railroad travel.

Like many other men of signal bravery, General HOOD, in personal appearance, is the very opposite of the conventional idea of a fire eater. Somewhat bleached by illness rendering his delicate features more delicate, with soft hair of light brown and silky beard nearly golden, he looks like a mild, sensitive and amiable man, as no doubt he is in private life, as he is a courteous and gallant soldier in the field.

WE are much pleased to see that the additional engines and rolling stock so anxiously looked for by all connected with the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad have arrived, and, as we might say, have gone into commission.

They have not got here a day too soon, as we can bear witness. Although we know that the officers of the road, together with the engineers and conductors have been doing their best, still there were circumstances that they could not control, and the result was that detentions and misconnections were of frequent, we might say, of constant occurrence, to the great annoyance of passengers, who, as men will do, vented their spleen on the first representative of the company they could meet with, which was generally the conductor, who, in such cases has to listen to any amount of grumbling and growling, not unmixed with censure to himself. We know how it is, for we have participated in breakdowns (not old Virginia but Railroad breakdowns) and are still a little the worse of the wear thereby. We therefore repeat that we have been rejoiced to see the additional machinery and rolling stock, which will push things through satisfactorily, and allow the stock previously on hand to remain long enough in the shops to be thoroughly repaired.

RUMORS are all at that the Margaret & Jesse was captured off the Cape Fear Bar on the 5th inst. Whether this report is correct or not, we have been unable to ascertain.—We rather think that it is correct.

There is also a unfavorable rumour about the Robert E. Lee, which is too vague to justify any conclusion as to its correctness. We may hear more in a day or two.

FIRE.—Yesterday between 1 and 2 o'clock, P. M., a portion of the roof of the dwelling house of S. R. BUNTING, Esq., took fire, evidently from a spark. The fire was soon extinguished with a loss of four to five hundred dollars, which is covered by insurance.

MR. BUNTING desires to return his thanks to his friends and neighbors, and to the citizens generally, for the promptitude and zeal displayed in saving his house, which but for them would, in all probability, have been totally destroyed.

Promotions.

A correspondent of the 20th North Carolina Regiment now in Virginia, writes as follows:

Lieut. Col. NELSON SLOUGH, of the 20th N. C. Regiment, has tendered his resignation, having been elected Sheriff of his county, and having also become incapacitated for active service from wounds, &c.

Lieut. SETH ROBBINS, of Co. G, has also tendered his resignation from ill health.

Lieut. J. F. IRELAND has been promoted to the Captaincy of Co. D, vice STANLY, resigned, and Lieut. D. K. BENNETT, to the Captaincy of Co. G, vice MERCER, killed at Gettysburg.

Capt. WRIGHT, of Co. F, with a Corporal of his Company were recently captured, having strayed too far from our lines while the regiment was on picket.

For the Journal.

CAMP 20th N. C. REGT, }
Near Kelley's Ford, Va., Nov. 4, 1863. }

Messrs Editors:—In my last I briefly stated that our regiment was engaged in the skirmish at Moreton's Ford, on Sunday, Oct. 11th. Allow me through your paper to give something like a detailed account of that affair. The cavalry in their reports having left us (the infantry) entirely out of the question, and holding the maxim, "*let justice be done though the heavens fall,*" we are in for our share.

The main army having moved a day or two previous by the way of Madison C. H., our (Johnson's) brigade was left on the Rapidan to bring up the rear and rejoin our division at an agreed point. Accordingly on the morning of the 11th, we made preparation to cross the river. The 20th regiment, commanded by Col. Toon, and five companies of the 12th regiment, commanded by Col. Coleman at Moreton's Ford, and the 5th regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Lee, the 23rd regiment by Capt. Bennett, and five companies of the 12th regiment by Col Davis, at Raccoon Ford. a few miles above—the whole commanded by Col. T. M. Garrett.

A considerable force of Yankee cavalry, it seems, were intending to cross the river at the same time at these points, and had succeeded at the lower ford, (Moreton's,) where Cols. Toon and Coleman were preparing to meet them, when we were reinforced by a brigade of Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry. A sharp fight ensued, lasting about two hours, in which our sharp-shooters did most, though all did their duty nobly. The Yankees got two pieces across the river, which were quickly silenced by ours; and their whole force put to flight just in time to save themselves from being captured, almost to a man, by Col. Garrett, who had routed them on the left and was coming down on the other side of the river. A running fight now ensued, which lasted until nearly night, and resulted in the total route of the Yankees, driving them with considerable loss beyond Brandy Station. Thus ended our day's work, with but slight loss on our side, while a considerable number of the enemy were killed and captured.

Our cavalry, whatever may have been said to the contrary, acted nobly in this affair, which, to say the least, has resulted in driving the enemy beyond the Rappahannock, and the position is now held by our troops.

Yours, &c., D. K.

From the Richmond Sentinel.

A Review of the War.

So absorbing is the interest aroused by each of the great battles and prominent incidents of the war, that we are prone to look only at distinct facts; and, consequently, our opinions of the progress and management of the contest generally partake of the feelings which event is calculated separately to inspire.

A more extended examination of the results of military operations will not be found uninteresting or unprofitable, and will enable us better to appreciate the value of what has been done, as well as to form a fairer judgment of the services of those entrusted with the direction of affairs. Such a review will, we think, afford just reason to believe, that the blood and treasure that have been expended, the sufferings, losses and hardships that have been endured, have not been in vain; and justify the hope, that we approach a successful issue of the struggle. We trust that what we shall say (and we shall endeavor to confine ourselves to undisputed facts, and such inferences as they fairly warrant,) may cheer the despondingly, if any there be, animate all with renewed confidence in the patriotism and capacity of our public agents, a firmer faith in our ultimate success, and, above all, inspire a deeper and more reverential sense of the debt of gratitude we owe to Him, to whom alone belong the issues of battles and the destiny of States.

The subject can be best presented by comparing the present condition of affairs with that presented by the campaign of 1862, the period of the enemy's greatest strength.

The first battle of Manassas opened the eyes of the Lincoln Government to the magnitude of the work it had undertaken, and all its energies were devoted to its accomplishment. The people of the North, with unparalleled unanimity and enthusiasm, placed at the disposal of their rulers the entire resources of the country. There were men without stint, and credit without limit; and the continent resounded with the notes of preparation for a gigantic war by land and sea. The autumn and winter were consumed gathering and disciplining armies, and collecting supplies of every description, while their dock yards hastened to cover the waters with an invulnerable and an invincible navy.

About the end of February, 1862, the storm broke, and a horde as numerous and as savage as the "Northern Hive" once poured upon Southern Europe, was precipitated upon the States of the Confederacy.

In May, 1862, there were more than 210,000 Federal soldiers in Virginia alone, distributed as follows:

General McClellan entered the Peninsula with	156,000
General McDowell advanced to Fredericksburg with	24,000
In the Lower Valley, were Gens. Banks and Fremont with	70,000
And in Western Virginia, Gen. Cox had	12,000
	270,000

his estimate does not include the troops on the Peninsula before the arrival of Gen. McClellan, the garrison at Norfolk, those who remained at Washington and Alexandria, or occupied various points in Maryland.—These being within call of some or all of the armies in Virginia, may be properly regarded as belonging to them, and will more than compensate for any error in the number above stated, which are, however believed to be accurate.

In addition to this force, there were twenty thousand men under Gen. Burnside on the coast of North Carolina; and another army, estimated at twelve thousand at Beaufort, threatened Charleston and Savannah, and ravaged the coasts of Georgia and Florida.

At the same time, two large armies under Generals Grant and Buell, penetrated Tennessee; a third, under Gen. Pope, operated on the Mississippi; a fourth was in Missouri and Northern Arkansas; and a fifth occupied New Orleans and Southern Louisiana.

The strength of these Western armies is not accurately known; but it is enough for our present purpose to remark that it was sufficient to enable them to act independently, none drawing upon the others for reinforcements. These vast armies conducted their operations simultaneously on all sides of the Confederacy; and, at many points, particularly where their navy could co-operate, overcame the resistance of the inferior forces opposed to them on our extended frontier.

It is unnecessary to trace events in the order of their occurrence, as we are only concerned with the general result.

The battles around Richmond caused the recall of the main body of Gen. Burnside's army from North Carolina, and was the beginning of that system of concentration which the losses of the enemy compelled him to adopt. The Federal force in that State has never since been strong enough to prosecute the project of invasion. Immediately after those battles, the forces of Generals McDowell, Fremont and Banks, with reinforcements from Washington and Maryland, were united under Gen. Pope. The campaign in Northern Virginia followed, and caused the withdrawal of Gens. Burnside and McClellan from the Peninsula; and, also, so large a part of the army of Gen. Cox from Western Virginia, that the enemy has never since been able to act seriously on the offensive in that quarter. All these troops were brought to the support of Pope and the defence of Washington, and all lurked back, crushed and broken, upon that capital.

A call was made by Mr. Lincoln for two hundred thousand additional troops to serve for nine months, and though a considerable number was obtained, the failure of nearly every State to furnish its quota, gave the first indication of an abatement of the enthusiasm of the North. The losses inflicted upon the enemy in the Maryland campaign were so severe, that when Gen. McClellan re-entered Virginia, it was not deemed prudent to return any considerable number of the troops that had been concentrated under his command, to the districts from which they had been drawn. The battles of Fredricksburg and Chancellorsville showed that this concentrated army was insufficient to perform the duty assigned to it. The Pennsylvania campaign reduced it still further, and after its return to Virginia, before any part of it had been sent to the West, it did not venture to act on the aggressive. The Valley, too, with the exception of the immediate line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, was entirely evacuated. The necessities of Gen. Rosecrantz, of which, we shall presently speak, could only be supplied by a further depletion of the Army of the Potomac, and as the third year of the war draws to its close, notwithstanding all accessions from the draft, and the various requisitions of Mr. Lincoln, the force of the enemy in Virginia, with the exceptions of some small garrisons, has dwindled down to the army that recently fled before the advance of Gen. Lee, himself weakened by sending a large detachment to the Southwest.

Such, in short, has been the result of the war in Virginia.

A brief examination will show that the indecisive advantages obtained by the enemy in the Southwest, have been attended with a corresponding marked decrease of strength.

As has been said, the Federal armies in the West during the first and second years of the war, carried on their operations independently of each other. Such is no longer the case. With the aid of their vessels, and with the facility of safe and easy lines of communication, they succeeded in forcing back our armies, and gaining some important successes. But the reduction of Vicksburg left Gen. Grant unable to resume the offensive in Mississippi, and the disaster of Gen. Rosecrans compelled him to call to his support reinforcements not only from Gen. Meade, but also from Gen. Grant, and the army in Arkansas, thus reducing the strength of three armies to insure the safety of a fourth.

It is not pretended that there are not enough troops left on the Mississippi to invade Louisiana, and even to enter Texas; but it cannot be supposed that the number is adequate to occupy, even imperfectly, those vast regions, or that they can maintain themselves in the interior of the country, except on navigable waters, without large reinforcements.

These facts show very plainly that the strength of the enemy, notwithstanding all the accessions it has received, has been largely reduced; while on the other hand, his need of a numerous army is even greater than in the beginning of the war.

In Virginia, his losses have not been productive of any corresponding gains. The task essayed with at success by two hundred and ten thousand men remains, with all its difficulties, to be performed by scarcely more than one-third of that number.

In the West, he has therefore had the assistance of his navy, with comparatively safe lines of communication by water. With these advantages, his strength originally was only sufficient to accomplish what he has done, after a long lapse of time, with great effort, and with heavy loss. Now he has a military power to overcome at least as great as any he has yet encountered, while he will be compelled to depend upon his land forces alone, from which large detachments must be made to guard long lines of communication, and occupy the extensive districts in his rear, overrun it is true, but far from conquerred.

In view of the military difficulties alone, it is safe to say, that to give him any reasonable hope of success the enemy requires an army at least as large as that with which he began the campaign of 1862. If we look at the means in his possession to raise this force, the moral effect of all that has been done will become apparent. It is true that the resources of the North in men are still great, and in military supplies, are not materially impaired; but its credit is, and, without a hearty and enthusiastic support of the war by its people, such as marked the beginning of the contest, those resources are like a steam engine without steam. Unquestionably that spirit has nearly expired. We do not refer to the elections as indicating the growth of a peace party, though they do show a great change in popular sentiment; but we point to the adoption of compulsory measures to obtain men, the opposition which those measures have encountered, and the almost total failure in which they have resulted.

A resort to conscription was an admission of the decay of the spirit of volunteering; the partial and unsuccessful execution of that law, proves how unpopular it is; and a return to the system (already tried with poor success,) of calling upon the States to raise their quotas by volunteering, shows that Mr. Lincoln is fearful of the consequences of enforcing the draft, as well as doubtful of its value as a recruiting agency.

It must be borne in mind, that men are to be raised not only to recruit the thinned ranks of the armies now in existence, but also to take the place of those armies which will be dissolved in the spring by the expiration of the term of service of the men enlisted for three years. Whether those men will voluntarily reenlist to any great extent is no longer a question. The draft of last summer was postponed until the fifth of July with the expectation that the men enlisted for two years and those for nine months, most of whom went out prior to that time, would be induced by large bounties to return as substitutes for conscripts. Such re-enlistments were, however, so rare that every case was published by the anxious friends of the administration.

The inducements to the *three years* men to return to service, will be even less. The Federal currency is steadily depreciating, and it is easy to see, must continue to do so, if unsupported by military success of a more decided character than there is any reason to anticipate. The nominal value of everything rises as the discount on the currency increases. Speculation is thus stimulated, as we well know, and men prefer the large gains of trade to the fixed and smaller returns of investments in the public securities. The volume of currency will, therefore, be absorbed less rapidly by the sale of bonds, and its further inflation will inevitably be followed by greater depreciation. The value of the bounty that will be offered to retain the *three years* men in service, will, therefore, be less than that which failed to tempt their late comrades to return to camp, while the wages of labor will be nominally increased to such an extent as to make soldiers' pay a very small attraction to a money-loving race.

We may reasonably anticipate from these considerations, the difficulties that Mr. Lincoln will experience in maintaining and recruiting the strength of his armies.

It is not unfair to assume, that with proper effort on the part of our people, and by the exertion of all the power of the State and Confederate governments, our armies will at least be—what they never yet have been—numerically equal to those of the enemy in the spring of 1864. The great wave of invasion has been broken, and we need not apprehend its return in any thing like its former violence. All that we need now is patient and unremitting effort. Let every man stand to his post, ready to follow the retreat waters, and, under the blessing of heaven, the territory they have inundated will be ours again. For to relax our exertions now, to abate one jot of our resolution, is to lose to that extent the advantages that we may justly expect to derive from the waning power of the enemy, and ignobly surrender to a weak foe what, in the plenitude of his power, he failed to wrest from vigilance, devotion and courage.

Discovery of a Confederate Spy.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* contains an account of the discovery and capture of a Confederate spy, who, for several months, succeed in passing himself off as a Russian nobleman. He is described as a most accomplished and well dressed gentleman, who, under the name of Louis A. Belville, was received in the first society, and became the intimate associate of prominent military officers, and a welcome and constant visitor at the various military head quarters in that city. By his social ability and lavishness of money, he so completely enamored his fair intimates that they urged and gained an introduction to their female friends, and, in short, inaugurated him as the prince of society in Cincinnati.—The *Enquirer* says:

Being deeply interested in our domestic difficulties, and sympathizing strongly with our government in the complete success of the Federal arms, many of the contemplated movements were confided to his keeping.—His suggestions were frankly given and thankfully received. Indeed no American citizen and to the manor born could have learned one tenth of the information imparted to this stranger Russian. By the side of generals he visited the fortifications, camps, etc., discovered our real strength in the field and at posts, and the destination of our armies, etc., etc. His knowledge of the American States was astonishingly limited, and to particularize was a "military necessity" on the part of those with whom he conversed. He passed in and out of military prisons at all times, and had a *carte blanche* to visit any portion of this department. Occasionally he would leave the city for a few days to visit Chicago, St. Louis, and other western and northwestern cities, and to become more familiar with the American country. Although his absence was brief, he was missed by his scores of friends, who welcomed his return with unmistakable affection.

One of these absentings was unusually long and considerable misgiving was entertained as to his failure in returning but an accident had caused the delay. A few days since his absence was accounted for, the latest bubble of Queen City confidence was exploded, and the Russian nobleman turned out to be nothing more nor less than a rebel spy, whose discovery was thus made: His last trip from Cincinnati was to Lexington, not far from which place in a skirmish, he was taken prisoner, with other rebels, in arms.

Upon this astounding discovery steps were immediately taken to fasten upon him the character of a spy. The Provost Marshal was dispatched to Johnson's Island, where Belville had been sent as a prisoner, to bring him to Cincinnati, where he is now in custody, and where he is soon to be tried. The *Enquirer* says:

His real name has not yet been developed, the probabilities being that Belville is fictitious. The marshal has learned that about two years and a half ago Belville entered the rebel service under John Morgan, a portion of whose command, of whom Belville was a member, was detached and ordered to report to Humphrey Marshall. Gen. Marshall made Belville's acquaintance, and learning that he could speak five different languages, and being exceedingly shrewd withal, he engaged him to come North in the capacity of a rebel spy. Belville went to Washington, New York, Boston, Baltimore, St. Louis, and all the leading cities and posts, and adroitly succeeded in gaining the confidence of all the military authorities, from President Lincoln down. The information he gained at the capital from the War Department and Cabinet officers was of great importance, and was continually forwarded South by the underground railway. When he had occasion to visit the armies he would purchase stores for the Union troops, and as a sutler or agent for the sanitary commission, always had free passes to every part of the Federal camps. Such was his knowledge of all our movements, that no sooner were they determined upon by our commanders than the enemy was posted at once, and our plans checkmated or frustrated. It is truly marvellous how successfully he carried on his operations. He is now kept in close military confinement, and will be brought before a military court-martial to be convened by Gen. Burnside, and tried as a spy, and if convicted, of which there is no possible doubt, he will suffer death by being shot.

FROM THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE.—THE BATTLE OF LOOKOUT VALLEY—FURTHER AND FULL PARTICULARS.

A special correspondent of the Atlanta *Appeal*, writing from near Lookout Mountain, October 29, says:

In the postscript to my former letter, I briefly adverted to an engagement on Wednesday morning, on the western side of Lookout mountain. I now send you full particulars.

During Monday night the enemy crossed the Tennessee in rear of Chattanooga, passed over the narrow neck known as the Moccasin, again crossed the river, and intrenched themselves on the heights which align its margin. It was at first supposed that their object was simply to drive away our small force, who besides picketing in that locality, had seriously interfered with the trains passing in and out of Chattanooga on the main road running to their base of supplies. It now appears that the movement was designed to pave the way for the advance of a column from Bridgeport up the valley towards, and, if necessary, into Chattanooga. The latter must have commenced nearly simultaneously with the one first mentioned; for on the night of Tuesday our commanders learned of its approach in this direction. During Wednesday morning the head of the column was espied in the distance from Lookout peak, and by dusk it had effected a junction with the forces in the neighborhood of Brown's ferry. Subsequent developments showed that the 11th and 12th corps of Meade's army—the former under command of Howard, and the latter under command of Slocum, and the whole under Joe Hooker—had taken the method of reaching this Yankee army of Tennessee.

An attempt on our part to check this movement would have been impracticable, without bringing on a general battle, since an interposition of our force across the valley would have necessitated a fight in both front and rear—and on both sides the enemy had the advantage of flanks protected. The first corps having passed up and a portion of it gone into camp, there was still visible below, a considerable number of wagons, guarded apparently by an escort of from fifteen hundred to two thousand men. Hoping to capture these, Gen. Longstreet determined, during the night, to make an attack, and accordingly ordered Gen Jenkins commanding Hood's division, consisting of Law's Alabamians, Benning's Georgians, Robertson's Texans, and Jenkins' South Carolinians (the latter under command of Col. Bratton, of the 6th regiment,) to take position for the purpose. Owing to the rugged nature of the roads, the troops could not be marched to their respective places until a late hour in the night—probably between one and two o'clock. The enemy occupied a line of hills parallel with the line of the river in the neighborhood of Brown's ferry; Law and Robertson the same line of hills, but nearer to Lookout mountain, to prevent an attack on Bratton's rear, and Benning a position on the left of the two last named, being intended as a support to Col. Bratton. These three brigades, as it were, covered the bridge across Lookout creek, over which they had marched and threatened the line of the enemy at Brown's ferry. Col. Bratton, with Jenkins' brigade, now moved over to the left a mile or more up the valley to attack the supposed rear guard and capture the wagon train.

Skirmishers being thrown out, the Federal pickets were soon encountered. These falling back, the enemy were found in line of battle, and, instead of being surprised, received our troops with a heavy volley. It was not long before it was discovered that, instead of a paltry body of men who would yield as soon as discovered, we were fighting a whole division belonging to the 12th corps, Gen. Slocum, who had closely followed in the rear of the preceding column, and encamped after night. Nothing was to be done but to fight it boldly out, and make up in pluck and obstinacy what was lacking in numbers. On our part we had but six regiments—the 1st, Col. Kilpatrick; 21 Rifles, Col. Thomson; 5th, Col. Coward; 6th, Col. Bratton; Palmetto Sharpshooters, Col. Walker, and Hampton Legion, Colonel Gary. Steadily, as on parade, these filed into position, and in a few moments, artillery and musketry were playing with terrible effect through our ranks. Fully three fifths of the brigade, however, had been wounded in previous battles, and all had been tried by fire and not found wanting; so that the ordeal, fearful as it appeared, was encountered by men who feared not the sacrifices demanded at their hands. The advance by night was necessarily slow, but once fairly at work the pressure upon the enemy's line was irresistible. The blood of the troops now fairly aroused, there was no thought save that of victory. Even the wounded, as they lay upon the ground, would call out to their comrades whose ammunition was exhausted—"Here, take mine," or crawling to their sides would bite the ends off the catridges, that no time might be lost. Men never stood up to the work of death more nobly, and none have died during the war more lamented than some of the splendid spirits who fell here.

Col. M. W. Gary, of the Hampton Legion, being ordered to go in on the right of Col. Coward, seeing an opportunity of turning the enemy's left, assumed the responsibility of making a flank or "Jackson movement," as it is very appropriately called by the men, the result of which was to break the Federal line.—Pursuing his advantage Gary now swept rapidly on, leaving wagons and prisoners in his rear, until brought to bay by a battery. Here he rested for a moment to reform his line. Col. Walker, of the Sharpshooters, meanwhile pressing on the right flank of the enemy. In short, the Federal line was shattered, their troops demoralized, the turning point of the battle was at hand, and victory seemed about to perch upon our banner.

The enemy is in the neighborhood of Brown's Ferry, discovering a battle in progress, had already thrown forward two columns, one of which advanced to attack the line occupied by General Laws and Robertson, while the other moved steadily past that front, and aimed to penetrate the long interval between Bratton and Benning, in other words, to cut Jenkins' brigade off from the bridges over Lookout Creek. The first column met with little success, being checked by the sharp fire of the Alabamians and Texans; but the second promised other results. The situation was a critical one, but Gen. Jenkins quickly divining the object of the movement, met the issue by ordering Bratton to return to the bridges, and the remainder of the division to hold its position at every hazard until the safety of the former was secured. Lieut. Col. Logon, of the Hampton Legion, with 14 companies, whom he had relieved from picket, having reached the field, was ordered to the left of Benning, where, occupying a hill, he extended our line, and naturally contributed to the check of the enemy.

Bratton now reluctantly abandoned his hard earned advantages, which ten minutes more would have combined to make our victory complete and enable us to capture a battery and bring away a large number of well filled wagons, now fell back in perfect order, and fortunately reached the creek. There he formed another line of battle. Law, Robertson and Benning cautiously dropping back behind their skirmishers and recrossed the bridges. The South Carolinians then followed, bringing away as many of their wounded as could be safely borne, and behind all Gen. Jenkins followed himself. Col. Logan with his skirmishers and a regiment from Bennings brigade alone remained on the opposite side to protect the crossing of the slightly wounded who were slowly making their way to the rear and finally, he too retired and established his pickets at the bridge. From these facts it will be observed that there was no disorder, no irregularity of any kind, and that the division fell back unpressed and with the same undaunted front with which it had advanced in the encounter. The Northern press with its usual mendacity will probably claim to the contrary.

Although we had not achieved a victory, we had, judging by results, been blessed with a Providential success. The Federals encountered by Jenkins' brigade were doubtless on the eve of a disastrous defeat, as is shown by the facts already set forth—namely: the breaking of their lines and the falling back in front, until wagon trains and prisoners were captured in the rear. On the other hand, the pressure of the Yankee columns from Brown's ferry, where it was known they had at least two corps, not distant more than a mile and a half, so threatened the integrity of our position that it eventually became critical in the extreme. Probably from seven to ten thousand troops enveloped the line designed to protect Bratton from an attack upon his rear, and in a few moments they would have intersected the only road by which he could return. Being unable to counteract a movement on so grand a scale with the small force at his command, Gen. Jenkins did the next best thing, which was to recall Col. Bratton and compel him at the moment of success to abandon the fruits of his struggle, which had been so gloriously wrested from the enemy.

Instead of censure, therefore, praise belongs to every officer and man concerned in the expedition. On the part of General Longstreet, the design was just like himself.—bold daring, dashing, and had it not been for the circumstances mentioned, it would have resulted in complete success. On the part of General Jenkins, the movements displayed an amiable fact, because upon his quick perception and prompt judgment in an emergency which required the ablest generalship, depended the safety of the troops. On the part of the latter, hard fighting, superb discipline, coolness and order characterized their motions from beginning to end, and all these combined to give our arms the *eclat* of success.—In brief, while we failed to achieve entire victory and its attendant train of benefits, our success was in fullest measure until the appearance of overwhelming forces from another direction, when another success ensued in the withdrawal of our troops, without the loss of a single man in the act.

The loss in Jenkins' brigade, killed and wounded, is three hundred and sixty-one. In the other brigades, as I am informed, it is from thirty to fifty. The loss of the enemy is estimated by one of our scouts who counted dead and wounded at from one thousand to fourteen hundred.

Twenty odd prisoners were captured by Col Gary and one flag. A large number of mules were killed by his order, while the legion was moving back, it being impossible, as they were unharnessed, to bring them away. The fight commenced about one o'clock and terminated before five, the darkness of the night necessarily requiring every movement to be cautiously made. The prisoners state that Col Gary was opposed by Brig. Gen. John J. Geary, of Kansas and Virginia infamy. Our Colonel is the same officer to whom I adverted in a former letter as originating the system of granting furloughs for recruits, now operating so admirably in the army. During the fight he was wounded in the side, but still remains with his command. The Hampton Legion has now been in some twelve or fourteen pitched battles, and though I saw on the bloody field of Sharpsburg only seventy-five men clustered around his mound banner, it now ranks among the best regiments in the service. In the late engagements its flag was shot down three times. Col. Coward's 5th regiment also behaved magnificently, one hundred and three out of two hundred and eighteen being killed and wounded. But all, without exception, come within the category of gallantry, and it would require columns to describe the various incidents which have become the theme of camp discourse.

Among our dead is Col. Kilpatrick, of the 1st regiment, a promising young officer, who had the honor of firing the first shot at the enemy near Stone bridge, in the battle of Manassas. Beloved by all under his command, as well as by his official associates, there is no loss that will be more keenly felt, and no absent form more sincerely lamented. He was shot in the breast while shouting an order to charge, and breathed but once or twice, during which he faintly whispered the name of his mother, and then died. Capt. Colter, A. A. A. G., of Jenkins' brigade, was dangerously wounded, and there is little hope of his recovery. Capt. R. M. Simms, A. A. A. G. of Hood's division, had a narrow escape, a ball passing through his coat and causing a severe contusion of the arm.

The primary object of the enemy has doubtless been accomplished. They have obtained the possession of the greater part of the railroad between Chattanooga and Bridgeport, relieved their wagon line of communication, and can now supply the army abundantly.—Whether the two corps, in question were intended simply to occupy the valley and protect the railroad during the winter or the movement is preparatory to others more important, it is difficult to determine.—Whatever is done by them must be done quickly, or the season for military operations will have passed away.

Whatever may be said out of the army to the contrary, those on the spot who are familiar with the country are satisfied that our commanding officers have acted judiciously in allowing the Federals to march up the valley and effect a junction with the forces in and around Chattanooga.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Reports of the Press Association.

entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM ABINGDON, VA.

ABINGDON, VA., Nov. 11, 1863.

A number of Morgan's men, who have escaped from Northern prisons, are arriving daily. They state that a terrible system of guerilla warfare is being waged in Kentucky. Citizens are being murdered and their houses burned, and privates Tom Carter and James Keller, of Duke's regiment, have been shot by the enemy after being taken prisoners, for the alleged murder of Major Witman, of the 28th Federal Kentucky regiment.

All quiet in East Tennessee.

FROM RICHMOND—CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COMMISSIONERS OULD AND MEREDITH.

RICHMOND, Nov. 11, 1863.

No official report has yet been received from Gen. Lee of the affair at Kelley's Ford. Some believ

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, NOV'R 19, 1863.

W. & W. R. R.—Meeting of Stockholders.

The stockholders in the Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road Company, convened this forenoon in the Court House, and organized by calling T. D. WALKER, Esq., to the Chair. Messrs WHITAKER and THOMPSON were appointed Secretaries.

There appearing to be a quorum present in person or by proxy, the report of the president and directors, with accompanying documents, was presented by S. D. Wallace, Esq., after which the meeting adjourned until half-past two o'clock P. M.

Col. S. L. Fremont holds the proxy for the State of North Carolina.

From the report of the President and Directors it appears that the *receipts* for the twelve months ending the 30th September, 1863, have been—

From Passengers,	$856,679 54
" Freight,	480,449 62
" Mail transportation and other sources,	65,702 54
Total,	$1,402,831 60

The Expenditures:—

Transportation and Road repairs Departments, including other charges incident to the working of the Road,	593,178 93
Leaving for nett earnings,	$809,652 67

As was anticipated, the receipts in the month of October and November, 1862, were light in consequence of the prevalence of the Yellow Fever. But for that cause the summing would have been larger.

The losses by the several raids of the enemy are alluded to. As these were all published at the time, in this paper, we need not refer to them further here, save to add, although rather anticipating, that the Chief Engineer and Superintendent, Col. S. L. FREMONT, estimates the aggregate at fully $100,000, exclusive of the loss by interruption of business and travel.

The company has purchased, on favourable terms the right to a quarry, and entered into a contract for quarrying stone for the purpose of building culverts and the abutments and piers of bridges of that material, at those points where they have not been so constructed, and it is practicable to do so.

The company has also secured the use of several tracts of timbered land, and employed a force to supply wood, cross-ties and timber, so as to do away with the difficulty which has been experienced in procuring these indispensable articles, notwithstanding adequate prices have been offered for them.

Three new locomotives have been purchased, which, with the improvements to those already owned, places the Company in a decidedly better condition in this department than it was at the commencement of the year. The stock of coaches and cars is not adequate, but it is hoped by building and repairs from time to time, that it will be able to meet the demands for transportation.

The laying of 550 tons of comparatively new rails, with the quantity repaired at the Company's furnaces, has maintained the track in safe working order; but a considerable addition of new iron is required, in the obtaining of which the assistance of the Government is confidently looked for and expected.

Of other needed articles which cannot be obtained at home, a limited supply has been obtained by importation. To pay for these, small lots of cotton have been sent forward as ship room could be obtained, which is done with difficulty, as owners are less disposed to accommodate, in consequence of Government claiming a specified tonnage of each vessel for transportation on its own account. It is hoped that the department in charge may be induced to consent to allow the company a small portion of the space referred to.

The indebtedness of the Company on the 30th September was—

Foreign,	$587,555 56
Domestic,	178,761 07
Total,	$766,316 57
Showing an increase during the year of	$15,920 64

The assetts of the Company have increased during the same period 406,149 67. A small portion of the foreign debt is past due, and, with accumulated interest on the whole so due is $83,000. To meet this, abundant provision has been made in Confederate bonds and in Cotton. A correspondence has been held with the bondholders in London to which they reply, expressing their gratification and confidence in the Company.

During the year 66 Cotton bonds valued at $99,669 have been purchased and added to the sinking fund.

During the year the Board of Directors has been deprived by death of the valued counsels of one of its most respected members, E. P. HALL, Esq.

The officers and employees of the Company have discharged the duties assigned them with commendable zeal and ability, and this fact is brought to the attention of the Stockholders.

The report of the Chief Engineer and Superintendent gives in detail the sources of revenue and items of expenditure for the last fiscal year. The aggregate is given in the report of the President and Directors. The road and its machinery is in better condition for another year's service than it was one year ago, and the Company is every day becoming more hopeful of maintaining the road and rolling stock in fair working order for an indefinite period. One thousand tons of new rails are required for repairs for the current year. Less might do, but it cannot be hoped that much less will carry the road through the year.

One locomotive, two passenger and seven Freight Cars have been burned by the enemy during the year, leaving twenty-four engines, nineteen passenger and one hundred and thirty-five freight cars. Of the engines, seventeen are in running order, or can be made so with slight repairs.

Reference is made to the buildings now in progress or under contract to replace those destroyed by the enemy.

Looking to the future the Engineer and Superintendent recommends that, at the earliest practicable time, the road be relaid with new iron of a *minimum* weight of *fifty-six* pounds to the yard, with chairs or joint fastenings of not less than fifteen to eighteen pounds weight. He also thinks that the Cape Fear should be spanned by a substantial bridge, and he then believes, that with the route South to Kingsville in good condition, no tears need be felt on account of the opening of the much dreaded Piedmont route.

The entire reconstruction of the warehouses, track and repair shops at Wilmington, according to a plan heretofore submitted, should be made. Attention is called to the pay of the officers and employees that have served the company during the past two years. In most cases their pay is entirely disproportionate to the cost of living, and bear no proportion to their compensation in former times. It is a very serious matter, and one that requires immediate remedy. There is not one officer, agent, or employee of the company paid relatively half as much as he was in 1860.—*Daily Journal*, 18th.

The Auction Sales

Are progressing with considerable spirit. The attendance of bidders seems to be full, and prices appear to have completely recovered from the fall which they experienced last week.

Perhaps the recent destruction or capture of a number of valuable ships and cargoes may have contributed to bring about this result, giving ground for the apprehension that the importation of goods would be virtually cut off. At any rate the thing appears to be so. Prices are *lively*.

Daily Journal, 18th.

IS IT SO?—We believe that the law of this State prohibiting the distillation of Corn or other grain into Whiskey is still unrepealed, yet we have heard it stated upon what we must regard as good authority, that there is at the present time, or was very recently, more than one still in the vicinity of Fayetteville busily engaged in distilling Whiskey from Corn. Perhaps the *Observer* could give or find some information upon this subject. It is manifestly wrong and we think it our duty to call attention to it so that if the report be true, the case or cases may be properly dealt with.

THE EIGHTH DISTRICT.—The Charlotte *Bulletin* gives the following as the aggregate of the official returns made by the Sheriffs in the 8th Congressional District: RAMSAY, 2,378; VANDER, 2,231. This gives RAMSAY a majority of 147. We do not know whether the army vote is all in, but whether or not, we have no idea that it would alter the result. RAMSEY is certainly elected.

THE SECOND DISTRICT.—On Wednesday, the 11th inst., the Sheriffs of the counties composing the Second Congressional District, met at Greenville, for a comparison of the polls. The aggregate vote, as reported stood 1,561 for BRIDGERS, and 1,512 for YELLOWLY. Mr. BRIDGERS, by this showing, leads Col. YELLOWLY 49 votes. This comparison, however, is not final, as the vote of several of the companies of soldiers in the army had not been received. The Tarboro' *Southerner* learns that the Sheriffs are again to meet at Greenville, on Wednesday, the 18th, for a final comparing of the votes. The law allows twenty days for the votes to come in. Wednesday, the 16th, is the last day. The vote must be *very* close.

THE "BARON VON KONIG" who said that he had been an officer in the Austrian service, came to Wilmington from Nassau, arriving here on the 21st of last August, with the professed purpose of offering his services to the Confederate authorities. The said authorities at Richmond, being telegraphed, knew nothing of the aforesaid "Baron VON KONIG," and declined his services, so that the Baron returned to the place from whence he came, and on board the steamer which brought him over, without receiving a command or being permitted to travel farther through the Confederacy.

Whether the Baron, who would appear to have been a mere military adventurer, of which many are to be found wandering over the continent of Europe, really did desire service with us or merely came as a spy, is more than we can say. As he did not get it, it is probable that he returned to the North and tendered himself to the party of the other part. At any rate, he has done his best to violate his pledge of honor, without which he could neither have been permitted to come into or leave the Confederacy—namely, to reveal nothing that might be prejudicial to the Confederate cause.

Now the man, a tall, portly and rather imposing-looking person, over middle age, calling himself "Baron VON KONIG," whatever his real name may have been, is pointed out by circumstances as the man who wrote the communication to the New York *Herald*, copied into the *Journal* of Saturday. It was not his fault that his revelations were too incorrect to be really prejudicial to the Confederacy. He did his best or his worst. He was no doubt displeased that he could not get a pass to go out of town. He was not pleased that General WHITING should propound cautiously and distrustfully in his case. Circumstances have shown that the General was right.

It is usual to finish a history by deducing a moral. In this case, however, the moral is so obvious that we need not prose over it much longer. Perhaps it would apply better to Major HILYGER, at Nassau, or Major WALKER, at Bermuda, than to the authorities at any other point. The moral is that of caution, especially as regards the living representatives of Dugald Dalgetty.—*D. Journal*, 17th.

☞ The person to whom we alluded yesterday as BARON VON KONIG carried a card with "ROBERT BARON KONIG" engraved upon it, surmounted by a coronet. On the back of the card shown to us he had written, himself, in pencil, by way of reference, that he had letters from ——— McFARLAND, (we forgot Mr. McF.'s first name) to Gen. BEAUREGARD, and others. We can generally distinguish between the hand-writing of a Frenchman or German and an Englishman or American, the latter being a running hand, the former having, to our eyes, a somewhat cramped look.—The writing on the back of the card gave no sign of having been written by a German, nor, as we learn, did the man himself, either by language or accent, give any evidence that English was not his native tongue. We are pretty certain that the name, card, coronet and all were false, and the person in question no German Baron at all, but a simon pure product of LINCOLN'S dominions.—*D. Journal*, 18th.

Chattanooga.

It is almost certain that the enemy contemplates active movements at an early day in the shape of an advance from Chattanooga or at least from the line of the Tennessee River in the vicinity of Chattanooga, upon Northern Georgia.

ROSECRANZ'S means of subsistence were already inadequate to the wants of the force he had with him. THOMAS must be doubly so, with the large increase which late reinforcements have brought to his camp. And still they come. SHERMAN is pushing on through Northern Alabama to join the main body at and near Chattanooga, and other forces are reported on their way.

All this can have but one signification, an advance, since it is opposed to all reason or calculation of probabilities that GRANT, the Federal commander of the Department, would order a concentration of troops at a point so destitute of supplies as Chattanooga, with the view of *keeping them* there, or with any other view than an immediate resumption of active operations; for if these operations are deferred for any great length of time, the season will render them almost physically impossible, at the same time that the difficulty of obtaining supplies and the suffering from short rations will be immeasurably increased.

What is being done our side to meet these vast combinations and this great concentration of force we are totally unable to say. We never feel safe in saying anything ourselves, or in believing anything that any body else says about matters and things in the West. It is "all a muddle" to us.—We do not understand it. When we obtain victories there they seem like blows struck in a troubled dream—if they do not fall upon empty air, they as certainly fail to accomplish anything as if they did. The victory of Chickamauga was a decided victory, but it decided only the contest on that field. It was a decisive of nothing else. Somehow it failed to raise the hopes of our people as so great a victory might have been expected to do. It appeared a though long and bitter experience had taught us all to doubt good news from that quarter, or as if no confidence was felt in the ability of the commanding general to improve the victory, or even secure the advantages he had obtained.

But it may be that the time has come for affairs to take a turn out in that section. Lord knows that time has been anxiously if not patiently watched for and prayed for, and it cannot come too soon for the good of all concerned.

Clingman's Brigade.

We have heard an indistinct rumor that there was some probability of the return of Gen. CLINGMAN'S Brigade to North Carolina, perhaps to this point. We do not know whether the rumor is entitled to any weight, but we have no doubt but that such a movement would be heartily welcomed by the brigade, and that *they* would be heartily welcomed by the people here.

The brigade has seen some pretty rough service about Charleston, and has stood up manfully to its work, and will no doubt continue to do so. Still, we feel assured that its members long to get back to the old State, and that no service could be more grateful than that which they might be enabled to do in defence of her principal town and only remaining seaport, if attacked.

It is to be hoped that at the first convenient and fitting season the general wish of the brigade may be gratified, so far as their return to this point is concerned. As to an attack upon this point, we say candidly that we do not care how long *that* is postponed, and should not be very sorry if it never came.

ANOTHER STEAMER DESTROYED.—We regret to learn that the large and elegant steamer, Robert E. Lee, formerly the Giraffe, Capt. Wilson, was destroyed by her officers off Wilmington, at an early hour on Wednesday morning. The Lee attempted to run past the blockaders, but suddenly found herself almost completely surrounded. The fire soon became so hot from the guns of the enemy that the noble vessel was run ashore, and fired by her own officers. We understand she was entirely consumed. The Lee was a Government steamer, and contained a cargo of very valuable Government stores. Her loss will be seriously felt. She had made many trips—had probably run for herself several times, but her loss is none the less to be regretted on that account.

We cut the above from the Richmond *Enquirer* of Saturday, where, although it does not appear editorially, it is not credited to any other paper. We believe, however, that something similar has appeared in other papers.

A report of the same kind was in circulation about here last week, but was totally incorrect, indeed we may say that it was wholly without foundation. The Lee was not off Wilmington on Wednesday morning. She was not run ashore or burned, and, for aught we know, she is now perfectly safe. We can hardly tell how such reports originate, still less can we account for the circumstantiality with which affairs that never occurred are related in papers at a distance, while of course they are totally unknown here either to the citizens or the military authorities. Surely if the P. E. Lee had been run ashore and burned on any part of the coast in this military district it must have been known here by this time.

P. S.—We find that the extract quoted at the head of this article is credited by the Richmond *Sentinel* to the Petersburg *Express*. The *Dispatch* has in addition another version of the rumour, but we believe equally incorrect.

UNDER ARREST.—A paragraph in the Petersburg *Express* states that General A. P. HILL is said to be under arrest for disobedience of orders, whereby MEADE'S army was enabled to make its escape, when its capture seemed a matter of absolute certainty. General HILL is said to have been four hours behind time.

We do not know about all this, but we do know that General HILL as well as General HETH, is held responsible for the disaster at Bristoe Station.

THE SISTERS OF MERCY.—It will be seen by advertisement in another column that the Sisters of Mercy of Charleston have opened a Boarding and Day School at Sumter.

These most worthy ladies are deserving of support, not only as accomplished and faithful teachers, but merit as well the esteem and regard of all, no matter of what denomination, who honor unselfish devotion and the broadest and most liberal charity. They have suffered heavily by the siege of Charleston, as well as by the great fire.

Daily Journal, 18th.

Fire.

A little before 8 o'clock on Saturday night, the 14th instant, a fire broke out in the warehouse on Water Street next North of the Custom House. The building as we learn belonged to D. G. PARSLEY, Esq., and was rented by J. H. FLANNER, Esq. Spite of all efforts on the part of the firemen and others, the building, with its contents, was totally destroyed, but the spread of the conflagration was arrested at that point. The night, providentially, was very rainy, which was a favorable circumstance, as otherwise the fire might have been very destructive, as had the large building next north become involved, it would have been impossible to say where its progress could have been stayed.

On inquiry, since the fire, we have learned that there were in the building one hundred and fifty bales of cotton, belonging to the State and to other parties, but chiefly to the State and to JOHN FRAZER & Co. We were gratified to learn that the cargo of the *Advance* had been already removed, there being only, besides the cotton, five barrels of machinery oil, and two bales bagging, intended to be used in the repair of defective bags on cotton for shipment. The oil and bagging belonged to the State.

It is difficult, if not impossible to ascertain how the fire originated. The warehouse had been visited after dark and no signs of fire discovered, although it may have been lurking there, perhaps from a spark from a cigar or pipe used by some negro. This, however, is only a supposition. It was first discovered on the side next the narrow alley between the warehouse and the grainery and corn mill of Messrs ELLIS & MITCHELL. On its being discovered, the sentry stationed there discharged his musket for the purpose of giving the alarm.

The fire proof shutters of the Customhouse were subjected to a severe test, those in the third story (the Confederate Court room) being heated to a red heat, some of the glass was fused and the sashes partially charred. The brown stone trimmings on the North Eastern corner were also somewhat cracked and chipped, but no other injury was done. The walls of the building in which the fire occurred being considered dangerous, have since been pulled down.

Some uneasiness was felt at the time, occasioned by a report that a quantity of powder had been stored in the Customhouse warehouse, in the rear, but this report turned out to be without foundation.

The heaviest loss is probably that of the building, which cannot now be replaced. The value of the contents was between thirty and forty thousand dollars, probably nearer the latter sum than the former.

We understand that Governor VANCE was in town at the time, having arrived here in the afternoon train.

The fire has set us to thinking about things a little nearer home—namely, the cotton stowed in the livery stable next door to our office and now used as a cotton warehouse. We confess that we feel far from safe ourselves, or free from apprehension for others, as we see that negroes are there by themselves at night—probably stay there—and no mortal power can make negroes exercise due care, or forbear smoking, or any other indulgence. The risk is obvious.

We do not like to appear querulous or fault finding, but in truth we do not want to see either the cotton or the building in which it is, or our building, in which we are, or any other man's building, destroyed, and hence our reference to the matter. Bales of cotton, as we now see them, are different from what they used to be. They are half loose as they come down on the road, and hence have to be more or less repacked; and hence, again, there is nearly always some loose cotton ready to take fire from spark of pipe or cigar, and it is very hard to put out—when once started.

The Blockade.

We learn that five additional vessels have recently been noticed as forming a part of the blockading fleet off the coast, going to show that the Yankees are in earnest in their threats to establish the most rigid guard over this port. We predict that, spite of all their efforts, vessels will go out and come in, but of the risks capture or destruction must be largely increased.

We are numerous—we are in the plural number—we are papers. At least we notice in several exchanges statements of what the Wilmington papers say.

For the Journal.

1st N. C. Cavalry and Col. Ruffin.

EDS. JOURNAL: The sad occurrence which has recently attended this regiment in the loss of Col. RUFFIN, the only commander it has ever lost killed, calls me to review briefly the hard service it has so patiently and gallantly performed, notwithstanding my unfrequent appearance in the columns of newspapers.

It will be remembered that this regiment entered service in the Fall of 1861, at Manassas, in Stuart's Brigade, under command of Col. R. RANSOM, now Major General. Here it did picket and scouting duty around the mountains of Bull Run, and on the snow-clad hill-tops of the Potomac for one long winter. Removing thence to North Carolina, under a muddy and tedious march, the Colonelcy fell upon Lieut. Col. BAKER, now Brigadier General. Remaining in its native State only a short time, the regiment appeared before Richmond after several days' almost forced marches, and was attached to the well known old Hampton's Brigade. Here Major GUMPLER and other valuable soldiers fell.

With ranks reduced and horses jaded and worn from long marches and hard service, it followed the retreating enemy into Maryland, passing through this campaign with but few killed. On the advance of the enemy into Virginia again the regiment fell back on the lines of the Rappahannock—there we did picket duty, and operated in the rear of Burnside's army for another long cold winter. Who does not remember this, when it is said that "old Wade," who was accustomed to a warm climate, "secuted so much in the cold snow and frost that his heels became cold hurt?"

Falling to the rear then and recruiting a few weeks, we entered upon the great Maryland and Pennsylvania campaign. In this campaign Maj. Whitaker and Capt. Houston of Company I, were killed, and our noble "Old Wade" wounded. Capt. Houston was a brave and daring man, liked by his Company, and a great loss to the country. On this campaign all fared rough—"Old Wade" sleeping in the woods on the ground just as his men did. Besides these serious results and occurrences, we lost many brave officers and men from our ranks. After Gen. Hampton and Capt. Sillin, the now lamented Colonel were wounded, Colonel Baker, now Brigadier General, took command of the brigade, and Lieut. Col. Gordon now Brigadier General, having been assigned to the command of a North Carolina regiment of cavalry, the command of our regiment fell upon Capt. Cowan, who never ventures so far as to retreat, recrossing the Potomac and falling back on the lines of the Rappahannock, Capt. Cowan is called from duty by illness, and our regiment is commanded by our various senior Captains, as one may be disabled from duty either by wounds or disease until Col. Ruffin recovers from his wounds received at Gettysburg. During this time we have passed through the second Brandy fight, where Gen. Baker was wounded. On Col. Ruffin's return to this regiment it is attached to a N. C. cavalry brigade now under command of Gen. J. B. Gordon.

Thus we enter upon our last operations in Northern Virginia. Passing on through various skirmishes and the Third Brandy fight we reach Bristoe station. Here the hearts of not only his old Company, but the whole regiment are made sad by the death of Col. Ruffin, and North Carolina called to weep for one of her noblest sons. Having passed through all the service and lost but one Colonel, we are reminded of the great blessings best worth naming, Providence, and we deeply lament the death of the Ruffin hero, as will be seen by our resolutions passed at a recent meeting of our Company.

In this fight, where our lamented Col. and former Capt. fell, it will be remembered that our squadron, Companies H and A, consecutively fell in the rear of the regiment, and when its brave and daring leader fell, the column rather halted for a moment, and several of his old Company dashed to the front; and among them were Messrs. John M. Monie and Coleman O. Jenkins, whom I regret that I did not mention in connection with others in my last communication. But in a time like that one can not see all that transpires and take care of himself too.

LAUS DEO,
Co. H, 1st N. C. Cavalry.

Camp near Culpeper, Va., Nov. 7th, 1863.

For the Journal.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Nov. 17th, 1863.

Messrs. Fulton & Price—

Gentlemen: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of one hundred dollars "for the use of Co. F, 31 N. C. Infantry, from their friend E. A. L., Graham's P. O., S. C.," and to return the thanks of the Company for the generous and acceptable donation.

Very respectfully, WM. L. DEROSSET.

For the Journal.

CAMP OF 50TH REGIMENT, N. C. T., Nov. 16th, 1863,

At a meeting of the officers of the 50th regiment, N. C. T., called for the purpose of expressing their regret at the resignation of their late commander, Col. James A. Washington, Lieut. Col. Wortham was called to the Chair, and Adj't. J. W. Edmundson appointed Secretary.

On motion, Capts. Burch, Ryals and Adams, were appointed a Committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

The Committee reported the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, Col. James A. Washington, one of North Carolina's best regimental commanders, has considered it proper to resign his commission as Colonel of this Regiment, therefore be it

Resolved, That the resignation of our Colonel we do most cordially regret, and beg leave to assure him of our high appreciation of his valuable services for the last eighteen months—the period of his connection with the Regiment.

Resolved, That we consider him not only a gentleman, but a soldier who has won for himself the respect, esteem love of all his command—those best capable of appreciating his true worth; and that in his resignation the Confederacy has lost a most gallant officer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to J. A. Washington, late Col. of our Regiment, and another be furnished the Wilmington Journal for publication, with the request that the papers of the State copy them.

GEO. WORTHAM, Chm'n.
J. W. EDMUNDSON, Sec'y.

From the Savannah Republican.

Incidents of Prison Life—The Murder of Lt. Gibson of the 11th Arkansas Regiment.

On Johnson's Island, a small spot of land located in Lake Erie, about four miles north of the city of Sandusky, is one of the Yankees prisons, in which your correspondent with twelve hundred other officers was unfortunate enough to be confined, and lucky enough to come out alive.

This depot was devoted exclusively to officers, captured at Donalson, Island 10, and througout the western department, while from the east there were but forty-eight, from the States of Georgia and North Carolina. Out of a gathering of twelve hundred there was no officer over the rank of Colonel—from that to junior 2d Lieut. all grades and departments of service were represented. It is not my purpose to record here the hard privations we endured, the inhuman conduct of our guards, the sufferings we underwent, for they are too revolting to contemplate even now, when we are safe again on "Dixie soil." Revenge and mortification spring up with thoughts of that prison—the one clamorous for retaliation, the other crimsoned at the thought that such deeds were done by a people who claim to be moral, enlightened, refined, and worse than all, whom we once called our countrymen.

The evening of the 8th August 1862, will ever be remembered by all who were confined in that loathsome den. The full moon rose through a cloudless sky—not a ripple or a wave disturbed the waters—the lake spread out as far as the eye could reach, like a vast mirror smooth as its surface, and reflecting the forests that environed its shores. The moon's bright beams from a cloudless sky mingled with the waters and made the lake present the appearance of one vast sheet of burnished silver. The picture was illimitable, rapturous enchanting, and brought to mind visions of fairy land. We had seen the news of the cartel for exchange of prisoners having been ratified, and buoyant with the hope of an early return to our country and home, we could look from our prison and forget the hardships of our condition in the beauty of the scene before us. Inspired by all the surroundings, a song was proposed, and with united voices, and a melody and fervor never before equalled, we sent echoing over the lake the words of "Home again." Hardly had the last note died away in the distance, when we were startled by the report of a musket and one of our men fell to the ground uttering a faint groan. No one was allowed to approach the prostrate man as he lay right at the door of his quarters. Was he dead? Was he wounded? Was he only feigning in order to shelter himself from another shot? No one could tell, the crowd being prevented from approaching by the inhuman guards. Thirty minutes elapsed, during which two field pieces loaded with grape, were trailed upon the prisoners and the batallion, with loaded arms drawn up in line, were ready for their work of murder. The officer of the day then approached the prostrate man, still keeping back the crowd and retired in haste out of the Prison, saying to the anxious enquiries of the prisoner's friends that he was only slightly hurt. Fearing for his own safety, he thus quieted the men till he got beyond the prison bounds. The Surgeon next came in; he was the only officer in the whole Yankee guard that had a kind heart or generous impulse. He was much respected by all, and is remembered kindly by many for his acts of sympathy. He approached the prostrate man, and calling a half dozen to his assistance lifted the lifeless body of Mr. Gibson from the ground. The ball, entering his left breast, passed through his body and penetrated the door of his quarters. For thirty minutes from the time he received his wound, he laid upon the ground; no friend or comrade was allowed to approach, and his dying words and affectionate farewell to father, mother, sister and friends fell only upon the ears of the God of his hope and salvation, whose name he adored and whose commands he had kept from his youth up.

Silently and sorrowfully the prisoners gathered around their dead comrade, and with their scant resources prepared the body for the grave. In searching the baggage of the murdered one for clothes to substitute for his bloody garments, we found, carefully packed away, mementoes that enlisted our greatest sympathy for the bereaved family when they should learn of their loved one's fate. Here was a fob chain ingeniously wrought of gutta percha, in measured links, inlaid with shell taken from the lake, resembling pearl, with a seal pending in which the Confederate flag was represented by the colors of the shell—this was for the aged father. A breastpin of the same material, with a cross, and the Star of the East above it, with a spear below, symbolic of the christian's hope, was for his mother.—A pair of bracelets formed in links of the same material, the links adjoining the clasp on either side, having the device of a heart, the clasp having an anchor, indicated the affectionate sentiment "In hope let our hearts be united"—this was for his sister.

These mementoes of a son's and brother's affection, so interesting on account of their having been carved out while in prison, and with the primitive tools at the command of the prisoners, were not allowed to reach the hands of those for whom they were intended. The vandalism of the people of Sandusky, and the battalion composing the guard of our prison, prevented. On leaving the prison the men were marched to the cars, and while there surrounded with guards and bristling bayonets, unknown to them, their baggage was torn open with violence and robbed of everything valuable, and particularly of all trinkets and charms that the men had expended their ingenuity and time while in prison in making as mementoes of their prison life, and at the same time as affectionate offerings to their kindred and friends. Thus, they murdered, in cold blood, Lt. Gibson, and appropriated to unholy uses such little things that were valuable only to the bereaved on account of their association and the circumstances under which they were made.

The sentiment of the prisoners that night is indescribable—a deep, determined spirit of revenge settled upon the mind of every one, and found utterance, one to another, in solemn pledges to avenge his death. Twelve hundred Yankees will bite the dust, for each comrade has pledged himself to remember the fate of Gibson, and strike for vengeance whenever the foe appears. We procured a black walnut coffin, and placing the remains in it, Lt. Steele, of the 28th N. C. regiment performed the solemn funeral services over our murdered brother. The coffin was then placed in a scavenger cart, and six Yankees mounted thereon. With their spades resting upon the coffin they drove off to the lake shore, where they buried him with curses and vulgar jokes upon "the dead Rebel."

I append some impromptu lines penned by Lt. Thos. Usher Pidmarsh, well known in the Southern States, and who was a prisoner of war with us, having been captured at Island 10:

THE MURDERED OFFICER'S FUNERAL IN PRISON.

No martial requiem grand
Swells round his lonely bier;
No muffled drum, no mourning band
Attend the warrior here.

All ruthless prompt to him denied
The fife or trumpet loud,
No guard of honor by his side,
No banner for his shroud.

No trophies won in darling fight
Adorn his coffin rude,
To mark the stalwart warrior's might
Or prove his noble blood.

No last salute is fired o'er
The prisoner's new made grave,
Sunk close by Erie's sloping shore
And washed by Erie's wave.

The coward foe may now deride
The noble warrior dead,
Who, living, scathed their dastard pride
And filled their souls with dread.

Calmly he sleeps beneath the sod,
His last parole is done;
Home with his bleeding country's God,
His last great battle's won.

Imagine the feelings of a fond parent, full of years, a venerable minister of the gospel, of the Baptist denomination, when at Vicksburg expecting to take to his embrace a loved and dutiful son, he learns the fate that has befallen him, and that he was killed to make good the oath of a Yankee guard, that he would kill a Rebel before he left the prison.

AN EXCHANGED PRISONER.

A PROPHECY JEST.—The following extract from a burlesque article in the *New Monthly Magazine* for 1821, (Vol. II.,) entitled "Specimens of a Prospective Newspaper, A. D. 4796," is curious:

The army of the Northern States (of America) will take the field against that of the Southern provinces early next spring. The principal Northern force will consist of 1,490,000 picked troops. General Congreze's new mechanical cannon was tried last week at the seige of Georgia. It discharged in one hour 1,120 balls, each weighing five hundred weight. The distance of the object fired at was eleven miles, and so perfect was the engine that the whole of these balls were lodged in the space of twenty feet square. A subsequent article in this specimen states that by means of a new invention Dr. Clark crossed the Atlantic in seven days. How little did the writer anticipate that in forty years these, to him wild fancies, would be almost realized.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Reports of the Press Association.

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 14, 1863,

The enemy's fire on Sumter continues steady. Battery Gregg opened fire this afternoon on James Island and Moultrie. The latter and Battery Simpkins replied. No casualties reported this evening. The monitors fired a few shots.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 15, 1863.

The firing is about the same to-day. 1523 mortar shells and rifled shots have been fired at Sumter from Thursday morning last to sundown on Saturday, of which five hundred and sixty five have missed. Private Pound of the 27th Ga., wounded in the thigh on Saturday, is the only casualty. The two killed on Wednesday night were privates Haddon of the 28th Ga., and Clinton of the 17th S. C. The enemy's fire has ceased and has done no injury to the fort.—No firing to day on Sullivan's Island or James Island. Our batteries continued to keep up a slow fire on Gregg and the mortar batteries.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 15, 1863.

Nothing unusual this morning, firing at long intervals continues.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON Nov. 16th, 1863.

Last night the enemy's shelling continued heavy. Between five and six o'clock this morning four Monitors moved up to within six hundred yards of Sumter and opened fire. Our batteries on Sullivan's Island and Moultrie are now engaged keeping up a steady fire. Two of the Monitors have moved back some distance. They were struck several times, and it is thought have been injured. The firing is still heavy at ten o'clock this morning.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 16, 1863.

The monitors ceased firing about 11 o'clock, A. M. One monitor got aground during the engagement and was peppered by both Sullivan and James Island batteries. She got afloat again, after which the whole five were drove off and returned to their old position. This demonstration of the monitors is believed to have been caused by the heavy shelling of Gregg and Cumming's Point by our batteries on Sullivans' Island on Saturday night.

A flag of truce from the enemy was brought up at three o'clock this afternoon, and was refused.

A heavy fire from Gregg, Cumming's Point and two monitors, alternately, has been kept up on Sumter to-day. No report has been received from the fort this evening. No casualties are reported on Sullivans Island. The number of shots fired by the enemy to-day was one hundred and four.

Two negroes belonging to the 54th Massachusetts regiment, captured at North Edisto, were brought in to-day.—They give a terrible account of Yankee treatment and the wretched condition of the negroes on Morris Island. Since their arrival their regiment has lost over four hundred by sickness and death.

THE FIRING ON CHARLESTON—BURSTING OF A YANKEE CANNON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 17, 1863.

The enemy fired about twenty-five shots from the guns at Gregg on the city but failed to do any material damage.—No person injured. 'Tis reported, from good observations, that one gun bursted at the last fire. Slow firing on Sumter all day; no casualties. The present indications are that the enemy intend more extended operations. No monitors in the action to-day. All the monitors have returned.

FROM CHARLESTON—MONITORS DAMAGED—FIRING ON THE CITY.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 17th, 1863.

Two of the Monitors engaged yesterday are not to be seen this morning. A report from Moultrie states that the leading Monitor in the fight had her smoke stack perforated in two places and her turrett in three—two above her port holes and one in her pilot house. Another had her smoke-stack perforated and her turret struck twice.

A report from Sumter states that four Monitors took a position near Cummings' Point buoy, and two pairs of buoys were discharged by them on the flood tide when they passed up the channel. It is believed they carried heavy weights, suspended at a certain depth below the surface of the water, their object being a practical passage for vessels of certain draft.

The bombardment of Sumter last night went on as usual; slow firing this morning.

LATER.—The enemy commenced shelling the city at ten o'clock.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 18th, 1863.

A slow but steady fire has been kept up on Sumter last night and this morning from the enemy's mortar batteries. Everything else quiet. No casualties at Sumter during the past two days. Major Elliott and garrison all well.

FROM ABINGDON, VA.

ABINGDON, VA., Nov. 14th, 1863.

Nothing further from East Tennessee. The weather is cloudy and a slight snow is falling.

FROM ABINGDON, VA.

ABINGDON, Nov. 16th, 1863.

Persons from Kentucky report the execution of Lieut. Harry Conner, of Col. Adam Johnson's Regiment, by the Yankees, at Mount Sterling on the 25th ult. Ten Kentucky cavalry regiments have been mustered out of service, and a draft has been made on each county for a company, by Gov. Bramlett.

FROM ABINGDON, VA.

ABINGDON, VA., Nov. 17th, 1863.

There is a perfect dearth of news to-day. The weather is still cloudy. It is raining, and the road is almost impassable.

LATE NORTHERN AND EUROPEAN NEWS.

RICHMOND, Nov. 16th, 1863.

The flag of truce boat arrived at City Point on yesterday. She brought three hundred prisoners and dates to the 13th inst., P. M.

Dispatches from Leavenworth, Kansas, say that the Rebels, under Cooper and Shelby, had crossed the Arkansas River with nine thousand men, and were marching on Gen. Blount, who had only a force of eighteen hundred cavalry, acting as an escort to a heavy supply train bound to Fort Smith.

Refugees from the Rebel army report that Bragg is evacuating his position in front of Chattanooga. Longstreet is said to be organizing a force for a raid on the Federal line of communication at Bridgeport.

A plot for the release of the Rebel prisoners on Johnston's Island has been discovered and frustated. Rebel fugitives and sympathizers in the British Provinces were fitting out vessels for the purpose of releasing the prisoners and burning Buffalo and Ogdensburg. The information was communicated by telegraph to Lord Lyons by the Governor General of Canada. Major General Dix has been ordered to Buffalo to adopt measures for the security of the frontier.

The Steamer Courier was recently destroyed by guerillas below Helena.

A collision occurred on the Opelousas Rail Road, by which sixteen of the 97th Illinois regiment were killed and seventy wounded.

A telegram from Chattanooga of the 13th, says that quiet prevails in and around Chattanooga. An artillery duel between the batteries on Lookout Mountain and Moccassin Point took place to-day. The fire of the enemy was vigorous, but there were no casualties.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13th—A gentleman who arrived late last night from the front reports all quiet. No signs of an early engagement.

Gold in New York on Thursday was quoted at 146¾; and on Friday, at the first Board, 147¾.

More than twenty different trades have struck for higher wages in New York. Not less than seven thousand Machinists have abandoned their work in forty-five large establishments; there is also important strikes in Boston and other cities.

The steamship Asia, from Liverpool on the 1st inst., has arrived at Halifax. Henry Ward Beecher is among the passengers.

The rebel steamer Georgia had arrived at Charbourg to obtain provisions and coal.

Furious gales have raged around the English coast.

The rams still remain in possession of an armed force.

The cotton market was irregular, with an advance of ¼ to ⅛d, for some qualities. The quotations are 29¼ to 29⅜d. Breadstuffs steady.

ADDITIONAL FROM THE NORTH.

RICHMOND, Nov. 16th, 1863.

Late Northern papers furnish the following additional news:

In the Missouri Legislature, on the 12th, the vote for Senator resulted as follows:—Brown, 62; Phelps, 30; Broadhead, 30. No choice.

Meade's official report of the Pennsylvania campaign states the Union losses on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, at 2800 killed, 13,709 wounded, and 6800 missing.

Little Rock advices of the 6th says that Price and Holmes' commands are still at Marshall, Texas.

Geo. W. Lane, so called U. S. district Judge of Alabama, died at Louisville on the 10 h.

Maj. General Prentiss, captured at Shiloh has resigned.

Beast Butler has gone to Fortress Monroe, to relieve Foster of the command of that Department.

FROM VIRGINIA—FINANCIAL MATTERS NORTH, &c.

RICHMOND, Nov. 16, 1863.

A report brought from Gordonsville that Meade had crossed the Rapidan was bulletined this morning, and relieved the dulness which had prevailed here for some time, but on the arrival of the Central

A Parallel by the Times—Russia and America.

From the London Times, Oct. 20.

The warmest sympathy with Poland and its wrongs [illegible] enables the West of Europe to follow with much interest the reports of the skirmishes between the insurgents and the Russians in the field. They have no result [illegible] even the attention, and, though the courage that [illegible] and ruines into the scale so lightly ought to [illegible] admiration, it does not give either the leaders or [illegible] fame. These actions are more like [illegible] battles, and the national strength seems to ex[illegible] them in vain. Many victories are claimed, [illegible] result of all the asserted advantages fall short [illegible] essential success. Now however the war ap[illegible] transferred to the city of Warsaw, and the [illegible] a new form which attracts and excites [illegible] of the most indifferent by its extraordinary [illegible] In the capital of the Kingdom of Poland, and [illegible] thousands of its inhabitants, the [illegible] fighting an invisible enemy. The secret [illegible] has not a soldier or a cannon, can dis[illegible] a power which sets the Russian army at [illegible] enemy is everywhere, yet cannot be struck [illegible] would help us perplexed if the revolt would [illegible] of the recognized modes of insurrection [illegible] barricades. But it does not gather in [illegible] armies. The hatred is silent, implaca[illegible] and the vigilance of the police has fall[illegible] on who direct this terrible power. Exe[illegible] Russian commanders are retaliated by the [illegible] Russian agents. The confiscation of [illegible] is revenged by setting fire to the [illegible] war to the knife and the torch, and [illegible] of the revolt appear to have at their [illegible] ready to meet death in carrying [illegible] as the fanatic disciples of the old man [illegible] who were the terror of the Crusaders. [illegible] Federals can console themselves as ef[illegible] forts with which they are struggling, [illegible] fashionable double-doors and guards [illegible] danger than in many battle fields. Before [illegible] it appears as if [illegible] would be exterminated. The Russians are [illegible] the Turks were to Hungary. Govern[illegible] seems to the world to be ready to ex[illegible] everything that makes the possession [illegible] a power which acts like

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, NOV'R. 14, 1863.

Inquest.

Yesterday forenoon Coroner H. R. PERRIN held an *inquest* over the bodies of a white woman and child, which were found dead in an outhouse near the plank road, a short distance beyond the corporate limits of the town.

It would seem the woman, who appears to have come from Duplin county, came to the place where she died about three months ago, in company with a man named GEORGE JOHNSTON, and obtained permission to stop in the outhouse. A few days after, JOHNSTON, with whom she had been living, although not married to him, was arrested by the military police, and is now, as we learn, in the military prison. We do not know the charge against him.

It would appear that the woman and child died on Wednesday night, and the Coroner was sent for on Friday morning. The verdict of the jury summoned by him was that the deceased died from "want of assistance," under which head we suppose may be included want of proper nourishment, as well as of medical attendance.

This is a painful case, and yet such cases we fear will occur, as long as the wives or others dependent upon soldiers continue to crowd towards Wilmington, leaving the counties and neighborhoods to which they belong, and where, it is to be presumed, provision has been made to prevent their suffering. These matters belong to the counties respectively from which the men come, and all of it could not possibly be undertaken by the single county of New Hanover: still, common humanity would prompt all to do everything to prevent such suffering as seems to have been borne in this case. There was no one on the lot save two ladies advanced in years and very infirm, who could not go after assistance, and probably the nature of the case was known to few if any others. It appears to have been a case to which no cold reasoning could be applicable;—no matter who the deceased was, or where she came from, she was a woman suffering, dying,—"from want of assistance," an assistance which organized charity alone can effectively render in all such cases, and the occasional occurrence of which the sporadic efforts of private benevolence will frequently be unable to discover, still less relieve or prevent.

ALL our exchanges will have it that the Robert E. Lee is captured, or burned, or something of that kind. We are not prepared to say what *may* be, or what may *not* be, but we know that if the R. E. Lee has been captured or burned, no such news has reached headquarters at Wilmington. The Margaret and Jessie is certainly "gone up," and so is the Ella and Annie.

THE BIG GUNS.—They are discussing, in England, the bursting of the big Blakely gun at Charleston. A friend of Capt. BLAKELY comes out in a communication attributing the bursting to the supposed fact of the gun's having been too much elevated, whereas it was not elevated at all, or not more than two degrees, which is next to nothing. The London Army and Navy Gazette says the heavy gun made on the BLAKELY pattern, which recently burst at Charleston, was constructed at Richmond. This is not so. The gun that burst was an English gun; it did not burst because of having been fired at too great an elevation, neither did it burst from any defect in the gun itself.

WE publish to-day a pretty long yarn from the New York *Herald*, in which a person who came passenger from Nassau to Wilmington some two or three months ago gives us his experience in the usual style of the *Herald* and its correspondents.

The person certainly did come to Wilmington, and is recognized. Why he was allowed to come here, or to leave here, we do not know. His random account, mendacious as it is, can do little or no harm; nor do we suppose his maps are more accurate.

Gen. H. WILTSES will no doubt be surprised to learn that he is, or is said to be, "a pet of JEFF. DAVIS," and the families that have left here will be surprised to find themselves in Augusta, while those that remain are not conscious of having, as yet, paid $3 per pound for beef. The other curiosities and discrepancies of this precious production will be sufficiently apparent to the reader without our taking the trouble to point them out.

Official Vote of the 3d Congressional District.

	Devane.	McRae	Falson.	Leach.	Ward.
Wayne	69	467	64	427	
Johnson	6	193	10	1033	
Jones	4	28	60	40	
Sampson	359	75	231	177	
Craven	1	417	69	29	
Onslow	17	121	7	202	
Duplin	246	194	154	156	
	720	1493	595	2064	4

FROM the above return it appears that Dr. LEACH, altho' elected, goes in as the representative of a minority of the voters of the District, and that any one candidate opposed to his faction could easily have defeated him. Thus MCRAE and DEVANE united, beat him by 193, and these gentlemen both represented the same idea and the same principle—opposition to the croaking and submissionism of the school to which Doctor LEACH belongs. So indeed did Mr. FALSON also, and with his vote added to that of MCRAE and DEVANE it will appear that Doctor LEACH is elected by 2064 votes while the district polled 2,671 directly opposed to him and his pseudo "conservatism." This division among the only conservative and sound candidates alone elected Doctor LEACH, and the concentration of the opposing vote upon one man and that a man so notoriously incompetent as Doctor LEACH shows the closeness of the party organization of those destructives who mean to rule or ruin—who enforce the traitorous communications of "Davidson," or bow the knee before the edicts of the Raleigh *Standard*, which paper now exults as over a *party* triumph, with a jubilation that would hardly be becoming at a time of profound peace, and is now, under existing circumstances, only to be placed in the same category with the fiddling of NERO while ROME was burning.

We stood aloof from all partyism in the late contest in which, indeed, we took little or no part, but we would now suggest that there is an old and not very polite saying which inculcates the necessity of fighting the devil with fire—that is of meeting and defeating parties who keep up party agitation with their own weapons. If they *will* organize to stir up strife and do harm, we think it quite probable that those opposed to such things will, in self defense as well as from patriotic motives be compelled to rally and organize so as to meet and crush those, who, to promote their own ends have been sowing the seeds of dissection broadcast.

Northern accounts state that the U. S. steamer Fulton reached New York on the 8th inst., having in tow as a prize the steamship Margaret and Jessie, from Nassau for Wilmington, N. C. The prize was captured on the 5th instant, forty miles South of the Frying Pan Shoals, after a chase of fourteen hours. This report reached here yesterday. The Margaret and Jessie, as we learn, belonged to JOHN FRAZER & Co., and was commanded by Captain PERRY Lockwood.

THE Richmond *Dispatch* says:—

The Margaret and Jessie, which was captured off Wilmington on the 5th by the Fulton, had a valuable cargo on. The Captain might have gotten her off, but having ladies on board he hove to when several shots had been fired. The following is a list of her passengers, who have arrived in New York, and are in prison there: Miss Maria Sparks, Mrs. Bourne, J. B. Baggott, A. McKay, S. L. Wartzfalder, W. Collins, J. Burke, and C. W. Craig. Miss Sparks was on her way home to Richmond, having been at school in England.

THE vote in the 8th District is evidently a close one, but there would appear to remain little doubt of the election of LANDER.

NORTHERN accounts say that energetic measures will soon be taken to stop the blockade running at Wilmington by an increase of the fleet off that port. We have reason to believe that the blockade is already more rigid and that some very fast vessels are employed in enforcing it.

THE *Knoxville* (Atlanta) *Register* says that General HOOD has been promoted to Lieutenant Generalship for meritorious service.

MR. SEWARD announces that the French Government, upon the remonstrance of minister DAYTON, has arrested the six iron-clad rams which were building at Nantes and Bordeaux. We presume they are detained to await judicial process.

The Yankee papers are copying with eagerness every item which they see in the Southern papers tuching the high price of food. We dare say the British did the same in the Revolution, when provisions were higher than now. Yet Britain failed in her attempt as the Yankees will in theirs.

Convention of Commissioners Appointed Under the Act of Congress of the Confederate States, to Regulate Impressments.

According to the request of the Secretary of war, the Commissioners appointed in the different States, under the act of Congress of the Confederate States "to regulate impressments," met in Convention in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, at Augusta, Ga., on Monday, the 26th of October:

On motion of Col. G. D. Moore, of Miss., Col. E. W. Hubard was called to the chair, and Col. A. H. Bradford and Col. C. J. Elford, requested to act as Secretaries.

The proceedings of the Convention were opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Potter of the M. E. Church.

The President explained the objects for which the Convention was assembled.

On motion of Commissioner Perry, of South Carolina—

Resolved, That the Commissioners in attendance do enrol their names, with the states for which they are appointed, and their Post-offices.

Under this resolution the following enrollment was made:

VIRGINIA.—E. W. Hubard, Curdsville, Va., Robert Gibbony, Wytheville, Va.

NORTH CAROLINA.—H. K. Burgwyn, Garysburg, N. C., R. V. Blackstocks, Stocksville, N. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—B. F. Perry, Greenville, S. C.

GEORGIA.—J. E. Morgan, Lagrange, Ga., U. B. Wilkinson, Newnan, Ga.

ALABAMA.—Wylie W. Mason, Tuskegee, Ala., Robert C. Fariss, Montgomery, Ala.

MISSISSIPPI.—J. W. Watson, Brooksville, Miss., G. D. Moore, Brooksville, Miss.

TENNESSEE.—W. E. Travis, Newnan, Ga.

The Committee of one from each State to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions offered by Commissioner Burgwyn, of North Carolina, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon, and recommend their adoption by the Convention.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

On motion of Commissioner Watson, of Miss., the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Commissioners present do now proceed as their States may be called, to lay before the Convention orally, their information and views as to the condition respectively of the States they represent, with reference to supplies for the subsistence and clothing of our armies and population for the ensuing year.

Under this resolution, statements were made by Commissioners Gibboney and Hubard, of Va.; Burgwyn and Blackstocks, of N. C.; Perry, of S. C.; Morgan and Wilkinson, of Ga.; Mason and Fariss, of Ala.; Moore, of Miss.; and Travis, of Tenn.

A communication from S. R. Cockerill, of Nashville, Tenn., was received and laid upon the table.

Resolved, That the hours for the meetings of the Convention be from 9 o'clock, A. M., to 1 P. M., and from 4 P. M. to 5 P. M.

Adjourned to meet on to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

TUESDAY, October 27, 1863.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Col. Alfred M. Martin, a Commissioner from South Carolina, reported, and was enrolled. Post-office, Brighton, S. C.

Resolutions relative to the objects of the Convention were submitted by Commissioners Mason, Ala., Perry, of S. C., Fariss, of Ala., Moore, of Miss., and Burgwyn, of N. C.

On motion of Commissioner Burgwyn, of N. C., the various Resolutions thus submitted were referred to a Committee of one from each State, to be appointed by the President.

The following Commissioners were named as the Committee: Mason, of Ala., Moore, of Miss., Perry, of S. C., Gibbony, of Va., Burgwyn, of N. C., Morgan, of Ga., and Travis, of Tenn.

The communication of S. R. Cockerill, of Nashville, Tenn., was read to the Convention by Commissioner Travis, of Tenn., and on motion referred to the Committee of one from each State.

On motion of Commissioner Perry—

Resolved, That the Committee of one from each State be further instructed to report such other matters of business as they may deem proper.

The following Resolution was submitted by Commissioner Farriss, of Ala.:

Resolved, That it is the duty of the Convention to give an interpretation of the provisions of the Impressment Act for the guidance of impressing officers, and particularly as to what class of holders are entitled to local assessment, and when an appeal is made to the Commissioners whether it is not their duty to affirm the award of the local appraisers as being "just compensation," if the impressing officer cannot furnish evidence to the contrary.

On motion, the Resolution was referred to a special committee of three, consisting of Commissioners Watson, of Miss., Fariss, of Ala., and Blackstock, of N. C.

Agreed to suspend the rules as to hours of meeting and adjournment, and that the Convention now adjourn to meet at 7 P. M.

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7 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee of one from each State, through their chairman, Commissioner Mason, of Ala., reported progress, and asked leave of further time to report, which was granted.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution submitted by Commissioner Fariss, of Ala., reported progress and asked leave of further time to report, which was granted.

A communication from the agents of the Richmond Factory was received and referred to the committee of one from each State.

On motion of Commissioner Perry, of South Carolina—

Resolved, That the prices of the following articles should be uniform in the States, viz: Wheat, Flour, Iron, Whiskey, Brandy, Cotton Cloths, Spun Yarn, Sugar, Coffee and Tea.

On motion of Commissioner Perry, the consideration of the price of wheat was then taken up and debated for some time without a result being attained.

A resolution submitted by Commissioner Blackstocks, of N. C., was referred to a committee of one from each State.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The roll was called, and the minutes of the meetings of yesterday were read and recorded.

On motion of Commissioner Watson, of Mississippi—

Resolved, That the Secretaries be instructed to procure the services of a Minister of the Gospel each morning, to open the meetings of the Convention with prayer.

The committee of one from each State, through their Chairman, Commissioner Mason, of Ala., made the following reports, viz:

REPORT.

The committee of one from each State, to whom was referred the resolutions offered by Commissioner Mason, of Ala., and Perry of S. C., have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon, and recommend their adoption by the Convention.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

Resolutions introduced by Commissioner Mason, of Ala.:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Convention, the Act known as the Act to "regulate Impressments" is eminently wise in all its provisions, and fully vindicates the purpose of the Government to maintain the supremacy of the civil over the military authority, and that it is the paramount duty of every true and loyal citizen to yield a cheerful obedience to all its requirements.

Resolved, That a state of war resulting as it always does in an obstructed and suspended commerce, and the disturbance of the usual means of transportation for the diffusion of supplies, precludes the idea of a fair market.

Resolved, That in such suspended and obstructed condition of commercial affairs and transportation, the true basis of values for articles necessary for the subsistance of the army and the people is bounded upon the legitimate cost of the production of such articles, and such per centage thereon as may be considered reasonable and proper.

Resolved, That in view of the financial embarrassments of the country, it is the duty both of the Confederate and State authorities to enact such municipal regulations in accordance with their respective organic law, as may promptly and effectually relieve such embarrassment.

Resolutions introduced by Commissioner Perry, of S. C.:

Resolved, That the practice of the Confederate Governments' Agents in making contracts for the purchase of manufactures and other articles for the use of the army at higher prices than those adopted by the several Boards of Commissioners in the different States, is highly reprehensible, injurious to the Government and should be stopped at once by the Secretary of War.

Resolved, That the habit which prevails in many sections of the Confederacy with the Quartermasters and Commissaries and their Agents in impressing articles for private use and consumption in families is contrary to the Act of Congress regulating Impressments, and should be prohibited by the War Department.

Resolved, That in impressing articles of food and forage for the use of the army, the Agents of the Government should exercise a prudent discretion and impress in those sections of the different States where food and forage are most abundant.

Resolved, That in those parts of the country where the provision crop is short, and will not more than supply the wants of the country, the tithes due the Government should be commuted for in money, and left for the supply of soldier's families and other destitute persons at Government prices.

Resolved, That upon the true constructions of the Act of Congress regulating the matter, the price of no article manufactured for the use of the Government under the said Act, can be more than *five per cent.* on the cost of production excluding the cost of the raw material, which should only be reimbursed without a profit thereon.

Resolved, That any contract or agreement which is a profit greater than is reasonable and fair, and that with which manufacturers have been satisfied.

The reports and resolutions were adopted unanimously.

REPORT.

The Committee of one from each State to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions offered by Commissioner Moore, of Mississippi, have have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon, and recommend their adoption by the Convention.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, the people of the Confederate States are now engaged in a death struggle for their liberty, property, and all that we hold near and dear; and whereas, it is the expedient that the Government of said Confederate States should husband all the resources for the attainment of its independence, and whereas, the land over is swarming with a class of persons known as speculators who are seeking to possess themselves of many of the most essential, if not all the supplies necessary for the support of the army to the detriment, not only of the Government, but of the people thereof particularly of the indigent poor, whose fathers, husbands, brothers and sons are absent in the army bearing their breasts to the shafts of the enemy and battling for our independence.

Resolved, That whilst we would allow the largest liberty of trade to the country that is practicable, it is in the estimation of this Convention inexpedient that transportation on our Railroads or by Express Companies, be denied to articles of prime necessity in the hands of speculators.

The Preamble and Resolution were unanimously adopted:

REPORT.

The Committee of one from each State to whom was referred the resolution offered by Commissioner Watson, of Mississippi, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon and recommend its adoption by the Convention.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, it is understood that the Government has at its command a greater supply of Salt, Spun Cotton Cloth and Sugar than its present necessities require, of which articles many of the people of the Confederacy are greatly in want, therefore,

Resolved, As the opinion of this Convention, that the material interests of the Government and people of the Confederate States would be greatly promoted by the liberal interchange by the Government with the people of Salt, Spun Cotton, Cotton Cloth, Sugar, &c., for all necessary Army supplies.

The preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, It is obvious that in the struggle between the speculators on the one part to gratify their avarice, even to jeopardizing the safety of our country, and the Government on the other, to protect that country, it becomes important to strengthen the arm of the Government by the action both of the Legislature and the people; therefore be it

Resolved, That the several States of this Confederacy be requested to pass such laws and take such measures as will most effectually cause the prices fixed by the Commissioners of appraisement in their States, to be observed by sellers and purchasers. And this Convention is of opinion that the most effective mode of doing this would be for the Legislature to impose a tax on all articles sold over the price of persons known as speculators who are seeking to possess themselves of many of the most essential, if not all the supplies necessary for the support of the army to the detriment, not only of the Government, but of the people thereof particularly of the indigent poor, whose fathers, husbands, brothers and sons are absent in the army bearing their breasts to the shafts of the enemy and battling for our independence.

Resolved, That whilst we would allow the largest liberty of trade to the country that is practicable, it is in the estimation of this Convention inexpedient that transportation on our Railroads or by Express Companies, be denied to articles of prime necessity in the hands of speculators.

The Preamble and Resolution were unanimously adopted:

REPORT.

The Committee of one from each State to whom was referred the resolution offered by Commissioner Watson, of Mississippi, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon and recommend its adoption by the Convention.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, it is understood that the Government has at its command a greater supply of Salt, Spun Cotton Cloth and Sugar than its present necessities require, of which articles many of the people of the Confederacy are greatly in want, therefore,

Resolved, As the opinion of this Convention, that the material interests of the Government and people of the Confederate States would be greatly promoted by the liberal interchange by the Government with the people of Salt, Spun Cotton, Cotton Cloth, Sugar, &c., for all necessary Army supplies.

The preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, It is obvious that in the struggle between the speculators on the one part to gratify their avarice, even to jeopardizing the safety of our country, and the Government on the other, to protect that country, it becomes important to strengthen the arm of the Government by the action both of the Legislature and the people; therefore be it

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Resolved, That whilst we would allow the largest liberty of trade to the country that is practicable, it is in the estimation of this Convention inexpedient that transportation on our Railroads or by Express Companies, be denied to articles of prime necessity in the hands of speculators.

The Preamble and Resolution were unanimously adopted:

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the Resolution offered by Commissioner Moore, of Miss., have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report favorably thereon, and recommend its adoption.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That the chairman of this committee be instructed to recommend to the Convention the propriety of appointing a committee, whose duty it shall be to forward to the Secretary of War the proceedings of the Convention, and any other committee, who shall prepare and publish an address to the people of their respective States, explanatory of the provisions of the Impressment law, and upon such other topics as may be thought proper and expedient.

REPORT.

The report of the committee of one from each State to whom was referred the Resolution offered by Commissioner Fariss, of Ala., ask leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the case, inasmuch as the objects of the Resolution have been embraced in other Resolutions.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

The report was unanimously adopted.

REPORT.

The committee of one from each State to whom was referred a communication from Mr. S. R. Cockerill, of Nashville, Tenn., on the subject of supplying the army with fish, have considered the same, and recommend that the same be forwarded to the Secretary of War for his consideration.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

The report was unanimously adopted.

REPORT.

The committee of one from each State to whom was referred the communication from the Agent of the Richmond Factory, begs leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, as this Convention has no power to act in the premises.

WYLIE W. MASON, Chairman.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The following committee was appointed to forward the proceedings of the Convention to the Secretary of War: Commissioners Wilkinson, of Ga., Martin, of S. C., Gibbony, of Va.

The following committee was appointed to prepare and publish an address to the people of the Confederate States, explanatory of the provisions of the Impressment law: Commissioners Travis, of Tenn., Watson, of Miss., and Perry, of S. C.

On motion of Commissioner Watson, of Miss., it was

Resolved, That the Commissioners of the States respectively be and are hereby requested to forward to the Commissioners of all the States copies of their schedules, as they may from time to time be adopted or revised.

Leave of absence was granted to Commissioner Blackstocks, of N. C.

The committee of three, to whom was referred the Resolution submitted by Commissioner Farriss, of Ala., made the following Report:

REPORT.

The select Committee to whom was referred the following resolution, viz:

"*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the Convention to give an interpretation of the provisions of the Impressment Act for the guidance of impressing officers, and particularly as to what class of holders are entitled to local assessment, and when an appeal is made to the Commissioners, whether it is not their duty to affirm the award of the local appraisers as being "just compensation, if the impressing officer cannot furnish evidence to the contrary," beg leave respectfully to report: That they have considered the subject matter referred to them and are of opinion that the phraseology of the law itself defines with the greatest accuracy the cases in which the owners of property impressed by the Government Agents are entitled to have the value thereof determined by local assessment or arbitration. The law provides explicit terms, that in cases where property of the owner are impressed by the Government and the impressing officer cannot agree upon the value thereof, it shall be the duty of such impressing officer to "upon an affidavit in writing of the owner of such property or his Agent that such property was grown, raised or produced by said owner, or is held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use and consumption, to cause the same to be ascertained and determined" by the process designed to the foregoing resolution as "local assessment."

This enumeration of the cases in which the owners of property impressed are entitled to the benefit of local arbitration it is believed includes every conceivable case, but the one in which the owner cannot, or will not prove by his own affidavit, or that of his Agent, that such property was grown, raised or produced by him, or is held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption. The intention of the law, it is most manifest, was to make those who purchased and sold for trade or speculation one class, and all other persons another class—this latter class, however, may in practice be augmented by the refusal of persons intended to be embraced in the first class to make the affidavit in the first section of the law specified. Those who make this affidavit are entitled to have the value of their property, or what will be just compensation therefor, determined by local arbitration—all other persons can only demand for their property compensation according to the schedule of prices agreed upon and published by the Commissioners in pursuance of Fifth Section of the Impressment Act.

The second question referred to the Committee for its consideration, is stated in these terms: "and when an appeal is made to the Commissioners, whether it is not their duty to affirm the award of the local arbitrators as being just compensation, if the impressing officer cannot furnish evidence to the contrary."

The Act of Congress concerning impressments was passed as well for the protection of the citizen as for that of the Government. The rights of the citizen were so often violated by the arbitrary and unjust proceedings of Government Agents charged with the duty of furnishing supplies for our armies, that a public clamor was raised upon this subject, which, reaching the ears of Congress, led to the introduction and enactment of the original Impressment Law. In the original law no provision is made for appeals from the decision, or the award of the local arbitration for which the First Section of the Act provides—but th's decision, or award, was declared to be final, as the schedule prices agreed upon and published by the Commissioners was made final in all cases to which they were applicable. Soon after the passage of the original Act, however, in the immediate vicinity of Congress, a case occurred, in which, by local arbitration, $20 per hundred weight was allowed to a farmer for hay, when the owner of the article had offered it to the Agent of the Government for less than half that price. This occurrence was made public through the Richmond newspapers, and became a matter of public notoriety, and immediately led to the passage of the Act by Congress, entitled "An Act to amend an Act, entitled An Act to regulate Impressments by officers of the army." This Act declares that in all cases of appraisement provided for in said Act, "the officers impressing the property shall, if he believes the appraisement to be fair and just, endorse upon it his approval; if not, he shall endorse upon it his reasons for refusing and deliver the same, with a receipt for the property impressed to the owner, his Agent or Attorney, and as soon as practicable forward a copy of the receipt and appraisement, and his endorsement thereon, to the Board of Appraisers appointed by the President and Governor of the State who shall revise the same, and make final valuation, so as to give just compensation for the property taken, which valuation shall be paid by the proper department." From this brief history of this appellate jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners, it will be seen that it was conferred alone for the protection of the Government; and this is even yet more strongly manifested, by the fact that the right of appeal is denied to the citizen, whilst it is given as a right to the Government. To this appeal on the part of the Government, the only condition precedent is that the officer impressing shall endorse upon the appraisement his reasons for disapproving, and thereupon the case comes before the Board of appraisers for their revised and final valuation. This appellate jurisdiction was obviously given to the Commissioners as a remedial measure. The law conferring it is, therefore, a remedial law, and upon well set last principles of construction should be construed in the light of the evil which led to its enactment, and so as to suppress the mischief and advance the remedy. Now to do this it must be held that the powers of the Board of Commissioners in the exercise of appellate jurisdiction, are to be held as unrestricted and general, as are their powers in cases of which they have original jurisdiction.—It is the duty of the Commissioners to fix upon the prices to be paid by the Government for every article of property which can become the subject of a local arbitration, and this they are required to do so as to afford just compensation to the owners thereof, and the prices, it is insisted, should be regarded as fair and right, until competent proof to the contrary is shown. To illustrate, the Commissioners are required to fix the price to be paid by the Government—say for the article of wheat. The Commissioners of Georgia in the discharge of this duty agree upon and publish five dollars per bushel as the price to be paid for wheat in the city of Augusta; this, then, is the judgment of the Commissioners as to the value of wheat in this place, and as to the price that will afford just compensation therefor. At this price, the Government Agents in Augusta impress and appropriate large quantities of wheat for the use of the Government. They make an impressment, however, and the owner of the wheat so impressed, makes the affidavit which will entitle him to the benefit of an appraisement by local arbitration. This appraisement is made and eight dollars per bushel is allowed; this case is now brought before the Commissioners by appeal, and it now becomes their duty to revise the said local arbitration and make final valuation of the wheat in question so as to give just compensation therefor. In making this final valuation, the Commissioners it will be seen will only be required to decide a question which they have previously solemnly adjudicated, and upon which their judgments are known to be fully made up.—Now under these circumstances, shall it be said that the judgment of the inferior jurisdiction shall be regarded as *prima facie* right, though in conflict with the judgment and decision of the appelate jurisdiction, or should not the very reverse of this be held to be the sound rule upon the subject? What is just compensation to one citizen in Augusta for wheat will also, as a general rule, be just compensation to his neighbor for the same article, and surely in the absence of all proof authorizing or requiring a difference to be made, it can scarcely be expected that a Board of Commissioners will say to one citizen of Augusta, that five dollars per bushel is the full value and just compensation for his wheat, and at the very same because his neighbor's case comes before him by appeal, declare that the latter is entitled to eight dollars per bushel, and that less will not be just compensation.

It is obvious, that it was intended that the original Impressment Act and the law by which it was amended, were so construed as one law, and thereby to introduce a uniform system, particularly as to prices; it must also have been intended that the Commissioners in assessing values, should in their original and appellate jurisdiction, adopt and apply the same principles and standard, and this being done, it will follow that in all cases brought before the Board by appeal, schedule prices must be enforced, unless the owner of the property impressed testimony make out an exceptional case, in which event it would be competent and proper for a higher price to be allowed; but in considering appeals, it should be borne in mind, that the assessment of the local arbitrators is not by the law made testimony, and should not therefore, when above the schedule prices be regarded as *prima facie* right, but as none such, unless by competent proof the contrary is shown.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. C. WATSON, Chairman.

On motion of Commissioner Mason, of Ala., the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretaries of this Convention be instructed to superintend the publication of the proceedings of the Convention, and revise and correct proof sheets; and that they are authorized to have published five hundred copies to be equally distributed to the Commissioners of each of the Confederate States, and that the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars each be allowed the said Secretaries for their services.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to James Mullins, the Keeper of the City Hall of Augusta, for his polite attention during our session, and that seventy-five dollars be paid him for his services.

Resolved, That the President of the Convention be authorized to draw upon the Quartermaster of this Post for the amounts above appropriated, and for the expenses of printing and forwarding the minutes.

On motion of Commissioner Perry, of South Carolina,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be returned to His Honor the Mayor, of the City of Augusta, for the use of this Hall during our session, and for the kind attention which has been shown the members by the officials.

On motion of Commissioner Watson, of Mississippi.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be, and are hereby tendered to the Hon. E. W. Hubbard, of Virginia, for the able, dignified and satisfactory manner in which he has presided over its deliberations.

After some able and eloquent remarks by the President upon the business of the Convention and the state of the country, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

E. W. HUBARD, President.

A. H. BRADFORD, C. J. ELFORD, } Secretaries.

NASSAU TO WILMINGTON—A TRIP BETWEEN THESE TWO SECESSION CITIES—LIFE AND HIGH PRICES IN WILMINGTON—HOW THE CITY IS DEFENDED—TESTIMONY BY AN EYE WITNESS.

The New York Herald of Saturday last, publishes the following, accompanied by a large map of Wilmington and its defences:

We publish below an interesting statement from a military gentleman, who has recently returned from Wilmington, N. C., giving some valuable information concerning his impressions in that part of Secessia. The statement is terse and plain, but graphic, having been written while the scenes detailed were being enacted. It is accompanied by a well executed map, and supplies some points of information that must be of value to our governmental and military authorities:—

Having urgent business in North Carolina, concerning the affairs of a deceased relative, I took, towards the close of August last, a passage for Nassau, New Providence, to run the blockade thence to Wilmington. In England it was always kept very secret if any vessel, not for the rebel States, but even for Nassau, was about to start, on account of the numerous detectives whom the United States government now employs in the British kingdom. How great, therefore, was my astonishment when, arriving in the port of Nassau, I saw waving from five different gray steamers the flag of the so called Confederate States. There nobody made a secret of the blockading business, for even the smallest interest lives and exists upon it. Nassau lying in a picturesque situation on the coast of the Island of New Providence, gives a healthful impression; but it loses very much of its beauty on a nearer approach. The finest hotel, the Victoria, from which we have a beautiful view of the city and port, was thronged with Southern ladies and gentlemen. Nassau owes hundreds of sailing vessels and steamers to the bloody war, and more than one negro is praying that the South may be powerful enough to resist the North at least a few years longer, that they might become right rich; and I think they will become so.

The next day I was going to one of the rebel States agent, Major Louis Heiligar, a very complaisant gentleman, who, for two hundred dollars in gold, gave me a passage on ——— to Wilmington. Maj. Heiligar, is of Danish origin, educated in Germany, speaks four languages fluently, and is in every regard a thoroughly bred gentleman. Two nights later we steamed away from Nassau.—The vessel was made to run twelve to fourteen knots, and was, like all the others, painted gray. Every one of these blockade runners has constantly two men in the mast bowers with spyglasses, who immediately signalize the least suspicious thing. The crew commonly consist of one captain, three officers, four engineers, forty-five firemen and sailors. Each man receives forty-two dollars in gold per month, and forty-two dollars bounty at the close of every trip. The officers' pay is between two and four hundred dollars per month, with some perquisites allowed. Except this, the crew is paid in Nassau or Bermuda, and the proprietor is obliged to give them a free passage home, if either sick or taken prisoners to New York, and discharged there.

There are also two pilots on board each vessel—one for the Bahama Islands and the other for Wilmington, each receiving for a trip $150 in gold. Wine, ale and spirits are open during the whole day for passengers and officers.—The cabins are magnificent, with excellent accommodations, because nearly all the steamers had been mail steamships in England or Germany. Other ships are not used, because it is necessary that they should not draw more than eight or nine feet of water. So I found, when I arrived in Wilmington, an old acquaintance, the steamer Hansa, on which, in times of peace, I had made different voyages between Lubeck and Riga; but it was difficult to recognize her in her gray uniform. The freight consisted, as usual, of a general cargo—a good deal of rum, wine and champagne, which is sold at enormous prices, as the rebellious Southerners do not very much like their invention of peach and apple brandy. We passed the Bahama Islands, as the pilot laughingly remarked, without seeing one of those omnipresent "cruising" Yankees. There were only three other passengers on board besides myself—three very handsome young ladies from Baltimore, who were going to see their husbands in the rebel army—at least, so they said. I never thought before that any lady in the world could hate so deeply, so fiercely; but when I heard these beautiful young women I inwardly felt happy that I was not a Yankee.

We were rapidly cutting our way through the waves, and the third night at eleven o'clock, we arrived near the Cape Fear. The ship had already run the blockade different times, and so there was no great anxiety on board. There was, however, not one light on the ship, and from the bridge, where the captain, the pilot and myself were standing, was a regular chain of men to the helm, so that every word passed surely and slowly.

The captain asked me to stay near him, because I, as an experienced officer, could perhaps give him some good advice about the enemy's fire if we should come in any collision with the "damned Yankees." The excitement was, notwithstanding, great; the masses of fog on the river; the engine groaning and wheezing; our own consciousness of hopelessness; the young ladies, recently so courageous, now kneeling on the deck partly weeping, partly praying—I never saw any difference of this kind in ladies. I beLieve my heart beat quicker than the hearts of many who wildly rush through battles. The shores were darkly wooded; but nearly everywhere we saw the water foaming over the breakers. At one time, not six hundred yards from us, in the river, we saw the dark, haunted form of a full line of battle ship. "The Minnesota, whispers the pilot; 'Give her full speed; let her have it,' cries the captain in the engine-room; and the good ship jumped through the waves like a sea mew. We hoped to pass without being remarked; but unhappily the red glare of the fire streamed out of the chimneys, and bang! whistled the first ball over our heads. "Go straight ahead from the Yankee, and then keep a little to the left," I whispered to the captain. The fire was quickly shut down. The captain followed my advice, and there fell a full broadside on our right, splashing into the water. "The devil," cried the pilot; "if we won't be caught; we are four miles from the bar; the blockading squadron, which is lying before it, must have heard the thunder." But on we steamed; there, to our right and left, we are just between the squadron; now we are through; now the guards see us; but they are lying at anchor; presently the squadron commences slowly to move; one minute more, and we have disappeared from their view. There, to our right, is Fort Fisher. We are saved!

In the morning we passed Fort Fisher, leaving it on our right. The river there makes a sharp bend, and we proceeded two miles further up to the quarantine fort, where about ten steamers, all coming from Nassau, had to pass fourteen days in quarantine on account of yellow fever.—The quarantine regulations were introduced here for vessels arriving from Nassau, because about one year ago some vessels from that port introduced the yellow fever here, by which some eleven or fourteen hundred persons died. From here to Wilmington the distance is only ten miles, and there are no more fortifications on the way.—Before coming to Fort Fisher we hung out on our right side two lanterns—one red, one white—which could only be seen on the rebel side by the coastguard; whereupon they immediately made signals with torches, so that our pilot very quickly found the way through the entrance at the bar. At the same time, through these signals to Fort Fisher and from there to Wilmington, it was telegraphed that a steamer was coming in. Having much time to spend, and the quarantine not being severe there, I had an opportunity—after presenting some bottles of brandy and whisky to the poor soldiers (yellow fellows) to whom the liquor seemed to be nectar itself—to see the fortifications and the surrounding country. There are only a few small earthworks before Fort Fisher, not armed at all, where, when a blockade runner is chased ashore, the rebels try to save her by bringing to her old some field pieces. The whole country is sandy, wooded and plain. Fort Fisher, the most formidable fortification of all, is a well built earthwork, but open in the rear, armed with fourteen heavy guns, two 10-pounders and two others 24-pounders all being of the old style. These cannons are so attached a little inside; wherefore the rebels call them rifled guns. Fort Fisher, being opposite the bar and lying at the corner of the bow of the river, defends the entrance to the port of Wilmington. Opposite to it, on the other end of the bar, is a like island, where they have built another small lunette for three pieces, which have to fire over the bank. Two miles further up, on the left hand side of the river, is the quarantine fort with nine guns, also of the old system—a very well constructed fortification, considering the inferior materials of which it is built, but in a defenceless position, because just opposite the river is a hill, the only one for miles around, about one hundred and twenty feet high, not being fortified, which not only commands this fort, but also Fort Fisher; so that if gunboats, sloops or frigates commenced to bombard Fort Fisher, and fifteen hundred men, with